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FRG PAPER CITES FALIN, CHERVOV ON GENEVA TALKS

DW201110 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 17-18 Dec 82 p 4

[Dieter Schroeder report]

[Text] Moscow, December [no date given] -- Up until now NATO has assumed that the Soviet Union would be prepared to continue the Geneva negotiations on medium-range missiles in Europe even after the counterarming began. This standpoint was held particularly by Defense Minister Woerner who in this way wanted to deprive the late 1983 deployment date envisaged by NATO of its final character if no agreement is achieved by then between the United States and the Soviet Union in Geneva. This positive approach was based, among other things, on information provided by FDP Foreign Policy Spokesman Schaefer after returning from a Moscow visit 2 weeks ago. In a talk with Zagladin, Central Committee member and deputy chief of the Central Committee's International Department, Schaefer received the impression that the Soviet Union was prepared to continue the Geneva negotiations even if no result had been achieved by the fall of 1983 and the West began to counterarm.

Either differences of opinion exist in Moscow on this point, or -- as is more likely -- the Soviet Union doesn't want to create the impression that the countermeasures it has threatened to take in case of deployment needn't be taken seriously. Apparently no political respite is to be given, especially to the Federal Republic. In talks with SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, Valentin Falin, former Soviet ambassador in Bonn and current deputy head of the Central Committee's International Information Department, and Col Gen Nikolay Chervov of the Soviet General Staff have strongly contradicted the opinion of Woerner and Schaefer and have assumed a much harder line.

Falin said that Schaefer didn't report Zagladin's statements accurately and depicted Moscow's position incorrectly. He maintained ironically that at least Woerner didn't call the Soviet Union's good will into question, but that he went too far in believing he could anticipate Moscow's decisions and prescribe to the Soviet Union "what it should or shouldn't do." If deployment takes place, he said, the Soviet Union would implement the countermeasures announced by late General Secretary Brezhnev and his successor Andropov for strengthening its security and that of its allies.

A similar statement was made by Chervov who termed Woerner's assumption that deployment could occur and negotiations continue as "incorrect." If deployment takes place, he said, the situation would change fundamentally. The West mustn't hope that deployment could take place "without any problems." The deployment of additional nuclear weapons would disturb what he considers to be a balance in Europe. The Soviet Union would then be forced to take countermeasures. However, he didn't explain these further, referring rather to a TASS interview with Defense Minister Ustinov, who also didn't give any details.

Falin also didn't specify possible military countermeasures, but he did explain political countermeasures by saying "if deployment takes place, a new situation would emerge which would make a continuation of current negotiations impossible." Completely new considerations would then be necessary, he said. Before the superpowers sat down at the negotiating table in Geneva about a half a year ago, Foreign Minister Gromyko had long held the view that prior to the negotiations NATO should lift or at least suspend the deployment decision. Later on, however, he dropped this condition. Do Falin's statements mean a return to the Soviet foreign minister's former position? On this point Falin remained unclear, and he seemed to be willing to keep a back door open.

Deployment wouldn't be "the end of humanity," and negotiations would continue to be necessary, but not in the present form, he said.

In the event the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles in Europe fail, Soviet security experts are considering combining these negotiations with the START talks on strategic missiles. It is "in principle not a complicated problem" to integrate nuclear medium-range missiles in Europe within the START talks, Colonel General Chervov said. At present, however, he is against this for political reasons. If both negotiations were combined, a solution would be delayed for many years. The impression could also be created that the Soviet Union had agreed to the deployment of additional Eurostrategic weapons. Medium-range missiles, however, are a "vital problem for Europe," which must be solved immediately. For the general, however, a solution is only possible if the French and British potentials are included. As does Falin, he insists that the Americans must abandon the zero solution. Both charge Washington with not negotiating seriously. Rather, as Falin maintains, Washington has agreed to the negotiations only because otherwise it would have been impossible to obtain the Europeans' agreement to deploy of the Pershing II and cruise missiles.

Falin leaves no doubts about the aim of the new warnings addressed to Bonn: Moscow must prevent counterarmament because it endangers peace. He also says why he hopes that the Soviet campaign will impress the Federal Republic and why it could help drive a wedge between Bonn and Washington: "They have already developed a taste for independent policy -- and hopefully that will continue."

USSR PREPARED TO 'REDUCE SUBSTANTIALLY' MISSILES

LD181114 Hamburg DPA in German 1029 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Dec (DPA) -- The semi-official Moscow NOVOSTI News Agency has stated that the Soviet Union is prepared at the Geneva Soviet-American missile negotiations to "reduce substantially" its medium-range missiles. It emerges from this weekend's report that in the Soviet view the West in turn would have to forgo the deployment of new American medium-range missiles in West Europe and reduce the numbers of American forward-based nuclear arms. This applies also to the nuclear arms of France and Great Britain.

The agency added that Western reports have claimed that the Soviet side in Geneva has indicated willingness to reduce to 250 the number of Soviet medium-range missiles of the new type SS-20 and the old types SS-4 and SS-5 if the West abandons the idea of deploying Pershing II and cruise missiles.

The "essence of the problem" at the Geneva negotiations on medium-range missiles consists, according to NOVOSTI, of the fact that the Americans intend to deploy new medium-range missiles in West Europe "at any price" and abandon this idea only once the Soviet Union destroys all its medium-range missiles. "Regarding the number of Soviet missiles which the USSR is prepared to reduce, allowing for the reduction of medium-range missiles at the disposal of the United States and a number of other NATO countries, the Soviet Union does not aim at gaining advantages for itself and is indeed prepared to reduce substantially arms of this type."

PRAVDA ASSAILS U.S. 'DISTORTION' OF FACTS

LD181914 Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 18 TASS -- Follows the text of the article "On the Question of Decency" to be published in the newspaper PRAVDA on December 19.

The U.S. Administration issued a statement the other day making for the umpteenth time an attempt to give a distorted interpretation of the state of things at the talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe.

The statement by the White House lays emphasis, which is highly indicative, on the claim that the so-called "zero option" on the question of medium-range nuclear systems is the "best way" for reaching agreements in Geneva. It is well-known at the same time that in reality the American "zero" has for a year now been blocking talks and cannot serve as a basis for outlining any mutually acceptable decisions.

If the USA still believes in accordance with its "zero option" that it will ever be able to achieve a unilateral abolition of all Soviet medium-range missiles, while the USA together with NATO will not give up a single of its aircraft, a single of its missile [as received], which is the gist of the "zero option", it is high time, at last, to have a sober view of the things. There will be no unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union. He who continues clinging tenaciously to the American "zero", does not wish an agreement at Geneva. He wishes a deployment of new American missiles in Europe - and nothing more. And this must be said plainly.

The American side is again citing hackneyed arguments in support of its plan for unilateral disarmament of the USSR. The main of these arguments is the invented proposition of the Soviet Union's "missile monopoly" in Europe, the alleged striving of the Soviet side to preserve some "essential advantage" over the West as regards this type of weapons.

Washington knows well that the Soviet Union has never had and does not have any monopoly in Europe as regards missiles. The NATO member countries -- the allies of the USA have ballistic missiles, and in considerable numbers. It is an open secret against whom these missiles are deployed. Washington also knows well that the Soviet Union by no means strives for an advantage over the West as regards medium-range means. Our proposals tabled at Geneva leave no doubt to that score. There is a balance as regards the medium-range means in Europe, and the Soviet Union proposes to preserve it, but at a considerably lower level.

As is seen from the statement by the U.S. Administration, the White House does not like the Soviet proposal by no means because they allegedly place the Western side in an unequal position, but because they deprive the U.S. of the opportunity to upset the European and strategic balance in its favour, to deploy in Western Europe its new missiles, which are specially designed for launching strikes against strategic objectives deep inside the Soviet Union's territory.

But it is clear even to a schoolchild, that the point at issue are absolutely incomparable things. The 572 new American missiles, which the USA is planning to deploy on the territory of its European allies, would be a direct addition to the American stratefic nuclear potential.

Meanwhile, the Soviet medium-range missiles, which have countervailed the NATO nuclear means in Europe for more than 20 years now, have never reached and do not reach the USA. No verbal subterfuges can conceal the fact that the USA has so far conducted the Geneva talks with an eye not to a reduction of arms and not to a strengthening of peace, but to ensuring the implementation of its military designs.

Unlike Washington's hypocritical stand, the Soviet Union's approach to the problem of reduction and limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe is clear. The Soviet side proposes a radical, three-fold reduction of all medium-range nuclear weapons of the USSR and the USA in Europe, does not leave any loopholes for bypassing the agreement either as regards missiles or aircraft, to ban the deployment in Europe of new dangerous types of nuclear weapons, including, as a matter of course, the American Pershing-2 and cruise missiles.

The Soviet Union wishes a lowering of the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe and an increase in the level of security for the European peoples and the peoples of the whole world. It does not need superiority, but neither will it allow superiority over itself.

Our country does not plan preventive nuclear blasts, dozed nuclear strikes [as received] limited wars in Europe, methods of upsetting strategic and regional balance, deriving military advantages for itself at the price of lowering the security of others. The security of Europe is our country's own security, peace for the peoples of the whole world is also peace for the Soviet people.

Therefore, we call upon the U.S. Administration to give up plans for a build-up of nuclear weapons, to stop the sordid game around such a vital problem for the peoples as the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe. The USA should not by word of mouth, but in action go over to a serious quest for a solution to that problem.

As Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, pointed out, we are for equality, for reckoning with the interests of both sides, for a fair agreement. And we will firmly adhere to this line. But let nobody expect that as the time-table for the deployment of new American missiles is drawing near, the Soviet side will pour out a stream of concessions. Agreement between the USSR and the USA can be based only on the principle of equality and equal security.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION, REAGAN REMARKS ON MX

Senate Vote on Dense Pack

LD171758 Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Washington December 17 TASS -- The Senate of the U.S. Congress has made a new step forward along the road of dangerous military preparations. The upper chamber approved, under pressure from the administration, the allocation of 988 million dollars in the present fiscal year for starting full-scale production and deployment of MX intercontinental ballistic missiles which are first-strike nuclear weapons.

This programme was heatedly debated because of a broad opposition in the USA to this new sinister creation of the Pentagon. Dozens of public organizations and prominent politicians in the USA strongly protested against the development and deployment of MX missiles. In their open letter Senators Alan Cranston, Edward Kennedy, Charles Mathias and Larry Pressler urged their colleagues to turn down the plans for the manufacture of such missiles which, they stress, will sharply increase the risks of nuclear war.

A serious blow to the administration's plans came from the House of Representatives which actually blocked the MX programme. To avoid a defeat in the Senate, the White House launched an unprecedented arms-twisting campaign against the legislators. President Reagan had a series of "emergency" meetings with the leaders of Congress "to explain" the administration's position to them. Defence Secretary Weinberger went to the capitol and Senator Jackson, the well-known "war hawk", was active behind the stage to condition the legislators accordingly. As a result, they knocked together a pro-Pentagon bloc which turned down Senator Cranston's proposal for refusing to make MX missiles, and then rubberstamped the administration's request for financing the manufacture and deployment of these missiles.

The question of the MX programme was referred to the House-Congress Conference Committee.

Vote Against MX Funds

LD200820 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Washington December 20 TASS -- The House-Senate Committee of U.S. Congress late Sunday night voted against appropriating funds in the current financial year for the start of the production of a new strategic weapon — the MX intercontinental strategic missiles. This is a new setback suffered in Congress by the dangerous plans of the Ronald Reagan administration which seeks, by deploying the missiles, to upset the approximate balance of strategic forces between the USA and the Soviet Union and to bring the arms race up to a qualitatively new level.

The voting was held during the discussion of a special bill on extension of the financing of the government activities in view of the fact that the previous law to this effect has just expired. The results of voting on the missiles are analogues to the decision by the House of Representatives which several days ago likewise declared against appropriating funds to the tune of 588 million dollars for the start of the production of the missiles. This serves as a reflection of the mounting discontent in Congress and among the U.S. public over the militarist course of the White House.

At the same time the bill version endorsed by the committee keeps funds in an amount of 2,500 million dollars for further research and development connected with the creation of that type of weapon. Serious criticism in Congress and among experts was raised, in particular, by the administration-elaborated plans for the so-called "densepack" basing mode for the missiles, plans which even in the Joint Chiefs of Staff have been considered inadvisable from the military point of view.

Reagan Claims Hypocritical

LD182232 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Washington December 18 TASS — U.S. President Ronald Reagan has held today a press conference, at which he was again trying to justify his administration's dangerous militaristic plans, in particular the program for the production and deployment of intercontinental ballistic missiles MX. Using hackneyed arguments, he claimed that this qualitatively new system of weapons, which is known to be designed for launching the first nuclear strike is allegedly necessary to close some "vulnerability gap" in the strategic potential of the USA and to end the alleged "lag" of the USA from the Soviet Union.

The U.S. Administration is deliberately leading things to upsetting the present rough strategic balance between the Soviet Union and the United States and ensuring military superiority over the USSR whatever the price. That is precisely why Reagan's claims at the press conference today that the MX described by the White House as a "peacemaking weapon" is created in order to be "never used" rang out most hypocritically.

Kornilov Commentary

LD192230 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2135 GMT 19 Dec 82

["On a Dangerous Course" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 20 Dec (TASS) — Political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Speaking at a press conference in Washington, the U.S. President called for an increase in the already gigantic allocations for military purposes by the United States as well as coming out in favor of the deployment of the new intercontinental ballistic MX missiles. In an interview with THE WASHINGTON POST, R. Reagan also stated: "We want to start production of these missiles." Thus through the lips of the U.S. President, Washington has once again confirmed that it is holding a course toward a fresh and extremely dangerous spiral in the nuclear arms race and toward the destabilization of the general strategic situation.

The deployment of the MX, which is planned by Washington, is one of the integral parts of that aggressive foreign policy program, drawn up in the United States and aimed at the elimination of the military balance which now exists. It is also aimed at the attainment of superiority over the USSR on a global and regional scale.

In this connection one should recall that Washington also envisages the deployment of new "Trident" ballistic missiles on submarines, as well as the deployment of strategic bombers, long-range cruise missiles for all types of basing and the use of space for military purposes.

Preparations for the deployment of new U.S. medium-range missiles on the territory of a number of West European states are also continuing. This would sharply change both the balance of nuclear forces in Europe and the correlation of strategic forces between the USSR and the United States in favor of the West. Press reports make it plain that Washington is hatching plans which are aimed not only at expanding the scale of the deployment of such missiles in West Europe (which would be a direct addition to the U.S. strategic nuclear potential), but also at accelerating the implementation of this deployment.

It is continuously being confirmed by facts that the public statements made by Washington officials to the effect that, as they say, the new American missiles will be deployed on West European soil only after the end of 1983, and only "in case of failure" in the relevant talks being conducted between the USSR and the United States, are nothing more than a decoy. The continuing activization of military preparations by Washington represents a breach even of the so called "dual decision" taken by NATO countries, while the measures being undertaken by the United States in the sphere of strategic nuclear armaments are directly aimed at undermining the Soviet-American agreements containing the strategic armaments race.

All this is evidence that Washington clearly does not wish to seek a reasonable and mutually acceptable agreement in the sphere of curbing the arms race. It also shows that the forthcoming year 1983 may be marked by a further and very significant growth in the military danger, the source of which is the United States and NATO, their aggressive foreign policy and their dangerous, anti-popular plans. The role and responsibility of the millions of participants of the anti-war movement grows even more in these conditions. To double, triple and increase tenfold their efforts in the struggle for the preservation and strengthening of peace, for the cessation of confrontation and the arms race -- this is where millions of people of good will in all corners of the earth see their duty today.

SHULTZ PRESS CONFERENCE ON MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD180146 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] London December 17 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz confirmed that the United States would maintain its position-of-strength approach to major international problems, including disarmament and security. Addressing a press-conference here today, the head of the U.S. Department of State referred to alleged military preparations by Moscow in an attempt to justify the nuclear arms race unleashed by Washington.

He dodged newsmen's questions about the United States' attitude towards the mounting anti-war movement in countries of Western Europe and inside the United States, caused by the Reagan administration's rabid belligerence. The secretary of state intentionally distorted reality when he tried to blame the nuclear arms race on the Soviet Union. If one is to believe George Shultz, the "threat to Europe" is posed by the Soviet Union and not by the White House scheme to deploy some 600 new American medium-range nuclear missiles in the continent. George Shultz had to admit at the same time that Washington would reserve the right to "press the button" to launch the cruise missiles and Pershings stationed in Western Europe.

We thereby revealed the source of genuine threat to peace. The Shultz statement means that the West European governments that have agreed to the deployment of new American nuclear weapons in their countries would be virtually unable to influence U.S. decisions of vital importance to them.

SOVIET-U.S. CONSULTATIONS ON NONPROLIFERATION

LD180756 Moscow TASS in English 0734 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Washington December 18 TASS -- Soviet-American consultations on problems of nuclear non-proliferation have been held here. The sides exchanged views on a broad range of issues connected with the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons. From the American side the consultations were conducted by special representative Ambassador Richard Kennedy, Deputy Secretary of Energy Davis and Assistants of the Secretary of State James Malone and Gregory Newell, from the Soviet side by Deputy Chairman of the USSR State Committee on the Use of Atomic Energy Ivan Morozov and member of the Collegium of the USSR Foreign Ministry Ambassador Vladimir Petrovskiy. The sides agreed to continue the exchange of views on questions discussed.

BOGACHEV REITERATES REJECTION OF ZERO OPTION

LD171802 Moscow TASS in English 1509 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

The White House has released a new official statement indicating that the Reagan administration continues to insist on the "zero option" as the only way of limiting nuclear arms in Europe which is acceptable to the United States.

As before, Washington would like only the Soviet armaments to be reduced, while NATO's similar weapons systems, targeted at the socialist countries, should remain intact.

According to Reagan's "zero option," the Soviet Union should remove all it's medium-range missiles not only in the European but also in the Asian part of the country. At the same time, according to the U.S. plan, not a single U.S. nuclear-capability aircraft (of which there are more than 700 in Europe at present) and not a single piece of the British or French nuclear forces (of which there are about 300) are to be dismantled. The U.S. plan provides for no reductions of NATO's existing weapons.

Washington only offers to renounce the plan to deploy 572 cruise missiles and Pershing-2's if all the Soviet medium-range missiles are removed.

At the Geneva talks the U.S. side even refuses to include the nuclear waapons of its allies, Britain and France, in the total balance although, according to admissions of the leaders of those countries, their nuclear forces are aimed against the socialist countries.

Incidentally, the British sea-based nuclear weapons -- 64 Polaris missiles — have been handed over to Britain by the United States.

The implmentation of Reagan's "zero option" would drastically upset the existing parity of forces in Europe. At present the USSR and NATO each have in Europe roughly 1,000 medium-range delivery systems for nuclear weapons.

Even today NATO has a 50 per cent edge over the Soviet Union in nuclear warheads of medium-range delivery systems in Europe. If all the Soviet medium-range missiles were unilaterally dismantled, NATO's superiority would have reached 200 per cent.

The "zero option" would ensure for NATO a 100 per cent superiority in delivery systems in Europe. Naturally, the Soviet Union would not agree to unilateral disarmament according to Reagan's plan.

One gets the impression that the United States, flaunting the "zero option" which is obviously unacceptable to the USSR, is heading for the deployment of its new missiles in Western Europe.

The United States clearly does not want any agreement on nuclear arms reductions with the Soviet Union.

PRAVDA BLAMES U.S. FOR MBFR TALKS 'STALEMATE'

LD170930 Moscow TASS in English 0812 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- The stalemate at the Vienna talks can be broken. "All that is now needed (for this) is a constructive approach to the problems discussed on the part of the Western participants in the talks," Boris Orekhov writes in PRAVDA today commenting on the 28th round of negotiations on the reduction of troops and armaments in Central Europe, which has ended in Vienna.

The negotiating parties, the author says, dealt with two documents -- a draft "Agreement on Mutual Reductions of Armed Forces and Armanents and Related Measures in Central Europe at the First Stage", which was tabled by the Polish delegation on behalf of the German Democratic Republic, Poland, the USSR and Czechoslovakia, and a draft agreement submitted by the Western powers.

"The discussions demonstrated again the difference in the sides' approach to a major international problem. Even a quick look through the Western draft shows that it does not meet the principles of the sides' reciprocity and undiminished security. The West wants, for example, that the Warsaw Treaty states should cut the numerical strength of their troops in Central Europe by 260,000 officers and men, while the NATO countries by only 90,000."

The Western draft makes it clear, Boris Orekhov says, that its authors are seeking to remain free to build up arms in order to upset the existing balance of forces in Central Europe. With this aim in mind, they are pressing, in violation of an earlier reached agreement, for the removal of the issue of arms reductions from the talks' agenda and objecting to a "freeze" on the numerical strength of the armed forces of all states which do not reduce them at the first stage.

The socialist countries draft, the commentary emphasises, is, on the contrary, based on the principle of reciprocity and equal commitments and parts from the premise that all direct participants in the talks will make approximately proportional contributions -- of no less than 170,000 officers and men -- in substantial troops reductions. The document sponsored by the socialist countries ensures the reliability and continuity of the process of reducing the level of military confrontation in the European Continent. "At the sessions of the past round," Boris Orekov says, "there was no shortage of assurances on the Western side of its striving to achieve progress at the talks, but it did not go farther than those vocal declarations."

NATO'S PLANNED PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN DESCRIBED

LD161450 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Viktor Olin commentary]

[Text] NATO leaders intend to launch a massive propaganda campaign next year to push through what they call the NATO rearmament program.

This program calls for the deployment of nearly 600 medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. The commentary is by Viktor Olin of our staff:

Reports of the NATO propaganda bid to gain support for the bloc's nuclear buildup came in the wake of the latest upsurge in antiwar protests throughout Europe. They reveal growing alarm among the bloc leaders over the powerful opposition to their plans aimed at worsening international tensions and the threat of a nuclear conflict. There has also been growing concern among West German and British politicians who (?pin) their personal amibitions on the rearmament program, since the problem of nuclear disarmament is expected to dominate the forthcoming elections in their countries.

NATO has reportedly failed so far to come up with workable ideas for its (?planned) propaganda action. At least the proposal by NATO Secretary General Joseph Luns to declare the bloc an independent peace movement has met with no response. So it has been decided to revamp President Reagan's battered zero option in the hope of winning support for the Washington-proposed deal, to have the Soviet Union scrap existing missiles in return for a NATO promise to scrap blueprint missiles, and at the same time to enable NATO to keep the nuclear weapons systems it has aboard its planes, aircraft carriers and submarines. Simply put, NATO would like to have the Soviet Union disarm unilaterally.

Those who advertise unwanted goods usually employ primitive (?stands), so it would be no surprise if the cruise missiles to be sited in Western Europe would be called angels of peace. The sponsors of the NATO propaganda campaign will be certain to repeat their claims that powerful communist agents are pulling the strings behind the multimillion antiwar movements in the world, claims that the Soviet Union is secretly deploying further hundreds of medium-range missiles, let alone reducing them. Or even wilder claims that the Soviet Union is out to destroy the (?Vatican). Such (?stands) are based on the assumption that an invention, once repeated several times, becomes a fact.

The sponsors of the NATO propaganda campaign will indeed have to rack their brains over how to match the current peace march in Italy, or the massive turnout at the Greenham Common Base in Britain.

PEACE COMMITTEE SENDS MESSAGE TO PEACE MARCHERS

LD172326 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- Resolutely demanding an end to the nuclear arms race, Soviet peace champions declare their ardent support for the participants in the Milan-Comiso peace march, who wish to preserve and strengthen peace, to banish the threat of a nuclear war, and to increase confidence and mutual understanding between peoples.

"The Soviet people who lost 20 million people in World War Two know what war is, and actively work for disarmament and for outlawing nuclear weapons, says a message of greetings from the Soviet Peace Committee to the march participants. We take pride in the fact that our country was the first among the nuclear powers to assume a unilateral commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weaspons under any circumstances. If other nuclear power, followed suit, this would open the way to a total prohibition and destruction of nuclear weapons".

The desire of the Soviet people for peace, the message of greetings said, has been demonstrated by the numerous mass actions of peace champions in the USSR, with tens of millions of people taking part.

WEEKLY INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE

LD191814 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0945 GMT 19 Dec 82

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer; Nikolay Vladimibovich Shishlin, international affairs journalist; and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin, all-union radio foreign-political observer]

[Text] [Levin] Good morning, esteemed comrade radio listeners. Several very important events took place in the fraternal socialist countries this week, and we will tell you about them today. I have in mind the fact that a BCP Central Committee plenum has been held; a RCP National Conference has been held; there were sessions of the CSSR's Federal Assembly, of the Bulgarian National Assembly, of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic, of the National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic. All these events are closely interconnected.

Socialist Economic Problems, Integration

[Shishlin] Each country has its own concerns, its own problems and its own tasks. However, there naturally exists a kind of a common denominator and this is the creative work being carried out by the socialist countries.

[Levin] The results, it is true, are not identical.

[Shishlin] Along with the achievements, there are quite a few difficulties in a number of countries. These difficulties were talked about openly, in particular by the Polish comrades at the Sejm session, and at the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee plenum. So there was some serious talking.

[Levin] Yes, this is perfectly true, but by mutual interconnection I have in mind the fact that the results of fulfilling the national economy plans for this year are being examined and that prospects for the future are being presented. Indeed, these results, generally speaking, are not identical. One notes difficulties, difficulties which, among others, are connected with the general development of the world economy.

The Hungarian comrades admit directly that the declining possibilities of marketing a number of goods in overseas markets has had a negative effect on industry.

[Bovin] Yes, this is understandable, since in comparison with other socialist countries, foreign trade means much more to Hungary.

[Levin] That is why, of course, the worsening of the general situation in the world can be felt. However, I would like to note two factors here. In the first place, in all the socialist countries, even when we are talking of the problems which it is necessary to solve, of the fact that it has not been found possible to fulfill certain plan indices, the search for ways of solving the tasks arising from these difficulties proceeds not along the path of encroaching upon the interests of the working people but, on the contrary, it is accompanied by an unswerving observance of the requirements to maintain and even to raise the standard of living. Well, for example, in the very same Hungary, monetary income went up by 7.3 percent in 1982 while the retail price index went up by 6.8 percent. This is a tangible difference to the benefit of the consumer, to the benefit of the working population.

[Bovin] Here too, of course, the picture is complex because, as you know, the cake is the national income itself, and it has to be divided up into different parts for consumption and accumulation.

Therefore, depending on the situation, there may be certain changes in the part which goes, for instance, on consumption and on the incomes of the working people. In different countries this is done differently. In some places the figure may be reduced for a time and in others it may be raised, also depending on the transient situation.

[Levin] Undoubtedly, but the essence of the equality and unity consists of the fact that the socialist states -- well, let us for the time being leave Poland out, since the situation there is specific and, of course the situation of the working people there has not, let us say this directly, become better this year -- but in other socialist states which have not experienced such cataclysms, such shocks, all the same there is a tendency toward keeping both the incomes of the population and the wellbeing of the working people in the foreground. For example, this is reflected in Czechoslovakia's 1983 budget. This is also reflected in the plans worked out in the German Democratic Republic and in Romania.

[Bovin] And, incidentally, in China, if one bears in mind the results of the session which took place there recently.

[Levin] Yes, there was some interesting data and it would, of course, be wrong to turn a blind eye to them. But what is noticeable in this context is the fact that when difficulties are being mentioned there is, it seems to me, a common denominator to these difficulties. This is, in the first place, the economic situation in the world. We have already said a great deal about the causes of the difficulties the Polish People's Republic is coming up against. Well, the National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party also said that too great an orientation toward the markets of capitalist countries and relying on importing goods and raw materials from these countries has brought about certain difficulties. And in connection with this there is now ever louder and insistent talk of the need for a more active development of cooperation within the CEMA framework, between socialist states. This is perhaps a conclusion which all the countries are uniformly coming to.

[Shishlin] Of course, this is perfectly obvious, because the deepening of the socialist division of labor, the development of socialist economic integration, will of course make it possible not just to solve in a comparatively harmonious way those major economic tasks which have now arisen before the socialist countries -- and there are primarily the task of ensuring satisfactory supplies of power, fuel and raw materials for industry, the task of speeding up technical progress, of scientific and technical progress, of overcoming some tight spots in technology -- but much else, of course, too. And here the accumulation of the efforts of the socialist countries in the economic sphere will of course multiply the capabilities of every socialist country, the more so in that you are right when you mention the policy of the West. In effect, all in all, the United States and it partners are toughening up their line on economic relations with the socialist countries, and under these conditions, of course, the socialist countries are not curtailing their business relations with the West; they are interested in the strongest possibly way in developing cooperation between themselves, cooperation which corresponds to the national interests of every country, and which will correspond to the international interests of the socialist world.

The comrade radio listeners know that preparations are being made for a conference on economic questions at summit level. This has already been spoken about in the press and in the speeches of Soviet leaders, and it is to be expected that this conference will turn out to be a certain frontier, so to speak, in the development of economic links between the countries of socialism and that it will open up some new horizons in the area of the economic cooperation of the socialist world.

[Levin] In this connection, I would like to recall the words of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov at the November CPSU Central Committee plenum. Expressing the striving of the Soviet Union to develop cooperation with the socialist countries, he said that we are striving to make comradely cooperation and socialist mutual assistance between the fraternal countries deeper and more effective, including in the joint solution of scientific and technical, production, transportation, power supply and other tasks. Further joint steps are now being worked out against this background, and this is opening up new prospects for all socialist countries.

Polish Situation

[Bovin] It seems to me that today we should say a few words about Poland, because as you probably know, comrades, a decision, in principle, has been made there to suspend the operation of martial law. But here, naturally, a number of questions arise, and to answer them I will simply quote some extracts from what Zawadzki, the Polish minister of justice, said in an interview he gave to the weekly POLITYKA.

The correspondent asked him why, in fact, this martial law has not been lifted completely. Why its operation has merely been suspended. This is what the minister replied: It is necessary to remember that a number of clandestine structures of Solidarity are still in existence and they might attempt to involve some young people in new adventures. This is just one point. And the second one: Directed toward making tension in Poland more acute. Naturally, I would like martial law to be lifted completely now, the minister says. However, the dangers to which I have referred show that it is essential to observe caution. And first of all to suspend the operation of martial law, to restrict its basic provisions, and when conditions are favorable to strive toward its complete abolition. But the correspondents go on to ask what this suspension of the operation of martial law amounts to. And this is how the minister replied: In the first place, internment will be lifted, interned individuals will be released, with the exception of a small number of people who for the time being will remain under temporary arrest because criminal proceedings have now been instituted against them.

[Shishlin] Those are the leaders of the Committee for Social Self-Defense.

[Bovin] Yes, yes, but not just them. In the second place the influence of courts martial on civilians will be restricted considerably. During martial law, many cases were decided by military tribunals. Now the area of competence of the tribunals will be significantly curtailed, and in the main the normal courts will operate.

Well, as for what remains of the state of emergency, he also spoke about that. He said, for instance, that there will still be strict regulations governing the transfer of people from job to job in certain jobs, stricter regulations regarding the observance of productions discipline and a ban there on demonstrations. These features will be preserved because the situation still remains fairly complex in Poland itself, and in addition there is the massive pressure which the West, of course, is exerting on the situation in Poland. It is indeed a hypocritical policy when they are raising an outcry about the state of emergency and, on the other hand, are themselves doing everything possible to make it more difficult for the Poles to get out of the situation in which they find themselves.

[Levin] Indeed, this pressure on the part of the United States has of late become even stronger, and it is characteristic that this pressure is directed at destabilising the situation in every way. It is not fortuitous that this week the Polish Government adopted a decision which to a certain extent will counteract the pressure from the United States. A decision was made to limit scientific-technical contacts and certain other contacts with the United States in order to guard the state and national interests of the Polish People's Republic.

[Shishlin] A whole year has indeed elapsed since the introdution of martial law in Poland, and in this respect there is an opportunity to have a look at what trends have manifested themselves in the course of the year. These trends were fairly fully and accurately reported in the speech by Comrade Jaruzelski, with which you were probably able to familiarise yourselves in our press, conrades. Not everything is going smoothly and evenly. But in general, trends show that in the political situation in Poland there are definitely certain tendencies toward stabilization. People are plainly aware that for the country to get out of its situation of crisis it is necessary to work, and in the economy, particularly in recent months and particularly in the mining industries, things are in general developing in a positive way.

[Bovin] All kinds of unnecessary things, of course, are still occuring there, but in general, of course things are very gradually moving on to a more sensible footing.

[Shishlin] Here, of course, the entire Polish situation reminds one yet again of the particular importance of interaction and mutual assistance between socialist countries. In this regard the internationalist support that has been extended to Poland by the Soviet Union and its other socialist partners has, of course, been a certain factor in normalising the situation in that large, interesting and complex country.

[Levin] I would like to illustrate your point, Nikolay Vladimibovich. It is known that through a shortage of monetary funds and material resources the construction of a whole number of large-scale projects was frozen in Poland. At present, very intensive talks are underway between Poland and the socialist countries on the subject of aid in order to complete the construction of these projects. This applies to approximately 40 projects. Certain commitments are being undertaken by the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, the GDR and Hungary to see that those funds which have already been invested should nevertheless provide a return as soon as possible. After all, this frozen construction work is immobilized capital. The Polish comrades themselves are not at present in a position to put it at the service of the national economy, and all the socialist community countries are coming to their aid. Indeed, the strength of our community and of our cooperation is being displayed very vividly in this respect.

Shultz European Trip

And, of course, no pressure from the United States is capable of halting those positive processes which are taking place in Poland. But when we speak about pressure from the United States on Poland and on other socialist countries we should bear in mind the fact that in point of fact the Americans are naturally, with some different aims and by different methods, also attempting to impose their will on absolutely everyone.

I rather think that in this regard the present trip to Western Europe by Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, could be a demonstrative model. The trip began on 7 December and finishes precisely today, 19 December.

[Bovin] Yes, the visit, of course, has been interesting in many ways. One must say that Shultz himself as a politician is very cautious, is not fond of extreme kinds of decisions and endeavors to approach problems in a balanced way and not to arouse anti-American attitudes. For this reason he endeavored to move through these West European countries in, so to speak, a very smooth fashion in order to beat down the waves of anti-Americanism. If one looks at the outward aspect of things, everything seems all right. Everyone seems satisfied. The talks have been held in a calm and amiable way. But, nevertheless, if one looks at the substance of things, it is obvious that Shultz's trip was, to a great extent, ineffective.

Well, let us take the economic problems, let us take the problems connected with the contradictions between the Americans and the Common Market.

Not a single one of these problems -- and they are connected, above all, with the whole range of problems affecting agricultural exports -- not a single one of these problems was solved. Let us take the second group of problems, East-West problems. Americans, as is known, wish to make the rules of East-West trade more stringent as a replacement for the sanctions. The same is the case as far as this fundamental issue is concerned. There has been, so to speak, no agreement on this; well, in principle they did agree that they will talk about it some more and so on and so forth. In this context, the statement that the French have issued to the effect that they will allow no one to determine France's foreign economic policy is significant. Well, the government was open about it, perhaps other captials did not put it quite as sharply although the thinking is the same in all of them.

Finally the third fundamental issue revolves around the new American missiles in Europe. For the time being, positions here are as of old; that is to say the Americans insist on their zero option. As for Western Europe, in as much as it has pledged itself in Geneva to the dual decision, it continues, for the time being, to say yes. But here, generally speaking, certain interesting changes for the better can also be noticed. It is as yet difficult to speak about them, but Western Europe is more and more inclined, inasmuch as I understand this, toward the view that some kind of compromise, which goes beyond the framework of this zero option, is possible here. As for the kind of compromise, what it will look like, it is too early to speak of this, but as far as this case is concerned, such talks and such moods do exist. They do, incidentally, exist in America too and that is why the situation is beginning to assume a very interesting dimension. And we will see, apparently in the near future, some new ideas regarding Eurostrategic arms coming to light. But, let me say this again. Formally, so to speak, Shultz's visit failed to bring about anything new here.

Disarmament Proposals

[Shishlin] It is true, Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, that the break in the Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear arms did not, all the same, to my mind come on a particularly cheerful note.

[Bovin] This is so, of course, and the task is, without doubt, very difficult. But nevertheless, I am convinced that certain compromise proposals will be put forward and it is quite possible that they will, generally speaking, as it were, be to the liking of Western Europe, at any rate more so than to the liking of the Americans.

[Shishlin] And as for the Americans, this is what their official position is....

[Bovin -- interrupting] The zero option.

[Shishlin] There is either the zero option or the deployment of U.S. missiles. Then they say that it will be possible to arrive at some kind of acceptable compromise solution with the Soviet Union.

[Bovin] Well yes, first arming and then disarming. As far as they are concerned, this is classically reflected in the MX problems. It is also a case of: Let us deliver 1,000 warheads and then let us disarm.

[Levin] Just for a moment, I want to return to the problem of nuclear arms in Europe. The interview which French President Mitterrand gave to Joseph Kraft, the very well known American journalist, deserves notice, it seems to me. In it, Mitterrand -- let me remind you that after his talks with Shultz, Cheysson, the French minister of external relations, said: we support the zero option. But in the interview he gave to Joseph Kraft, Mitterrand said that an acceptable Soviet proposal would meet with a positive response on the part of France.

If Mitterrand, according to Kraft, has so far failed to be tempted by the Soviet appeal, then on the other hand, neither did he give his support to renounce the Pershing missiles and the cruise missiles only if the Soviet Union reduces its own SS-20 missiles to zero. A solution, Mitterrand stated, could come somewhere in the middle, between the freezing of the current situation and the zero option.

[Bovin] Well, as for the Americans, they generally speaking, are continuing to put pressure on Austria. Let us take this example. The American press and official statements have strong overtones; they are trying to make Austria sharply reduce trade relations with the Soviet Union under the pretext that it is through Austria that modern technology continues to flow to the Soviet Union and so on and so forth. Naturally, the Austrians receive this without particularly going into raptures.

MX Missles

[Levin] I think that the political struggle which is now being waged in the United States around the MX plan is far from simple. Take the kind of situation which is now arising. The House of Representatives has turned down the plan to allocate $988 million for the development of the first missiles of the dense-pack system. The Senate adopted a kind of compromise decision.

[Shishlin] There is, nevertheless, a clever ruse here because, in fact, the House of Representatives did not actually oppose the MX.

[Levin] I wanted to draw attention to that. Here a paradoxical situation arises: Even the House of Representatives allocated over $1.8 billion for the development and manufacture of these missiles, and I sometimes get the impression from this whole political struggle which is taking place in Congress, from all this talk, that its task is not so much to make the situation clear but to cloak it in mist. THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote the following immediately after the voting in the House of Representatives: The defeat which President Reagan has suffered on the question of the allocation of funds for the construction of the first five MX missiles, if he would only admit it, opens up for him an opportunity to give up the course of pursuing a strategic arms race, and instead of this, to try to seriously talk about limiting the arsenals of nuclear weapons of both superpowers. But there is no such tendency, either on the part of the President, or in my view, on the part of Congress.

[Bovin] But here, you see, the question is more complicated, of course, because the main thing here is this: Will this missile be as invulnerable as the President and the administration say. And indeed Congress is raising doubts about this main prerequisite, because the very idea of having this missile boils down to the creation within this strategic triad of a less vulnerable land-based missile component. It is this main prerequisite that Congress is actually raising doubts about. It is raising doubts because it considers that this dense-pack system which the administration has hatched will not provide invulnerability, the more so as some fairly shocking news has filtered through, that as it appears, out of the four chiefs of staff of the various services neither the representative of the Navy nor the representative of the Marine Corps, nor the representative of the land forces supported this basing system. Only the representative of the Air Force supported it because it is the Air Force that develops these missiles. The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff also supported it. This is also very indicative. And so the fighting will go on concerning the system for basing these missiles, and it will be difficult, no doubt, for Americans to prove that any possible, conceivable system for this kind of basing will turn out to be just as invulnerable as the administration plans.

[Shishlin] Of course, this adds a new element of alarm in a world already troubled, because the addition of new mountains to these Everests of arms certainly does not encourage a smoothing of international relations.

[Levin] Without doubt.

[Shishlin] And it is with complete justice that the Soviet press has already quoted the statements by Dmitriy Fedorivich Ustinov, the Soviet minister of defense, to the effect that the Soviet Union will respond to actions by the Americans in the appropriate way, and in such a case analogous Soviet missiles will of course be deployed.

[Bovin] Moreover, I would like to stress that in this statement by our minister of defense there is no element of our wanting to frighten anyone or to threaten anyone. To deploy a new system, this brings us no joy at all, absolutely none whatsoever. We do not want this. But if we are placed in a position where there is no alternative, we consider that security has priority and that there will be no other way out for us.

[Shishlin] There are viewpoints in the world that it is possible to proceed unilaterally, cutting down budgets, dissolving alliances and so on and so forth, but this might turn out to be like a slippery path along an inclined plane, something akin to capitalation. A lack of balance today in the military field would be dangerous for the fate of the world [dlya sudeb mira].

CSCE Session

[Levin] That is certainly so. Returning to American policy I would briefly like to touch upon another problem. This is the Madrid meeting of representatives of the states that participated in the all-European conference. On Friday, the latest round of this meeting ended. The meeting has been drawn out and very greatly protracted. The Soviet Union has for a long time now been advocating that it be ended as soon as possible, but definitely be ended in a positive fashion. The concerted position of the socialist countries is, as you know, that the meeting should adopt a meaningful and well-balanced document, which will reaffirm the commitment to fulfilling all the principles and provisions of the Final Act and will include accords governing their further implementation. The second thing that the socialist countries are advocating is the adoption of a decision on the convening of a conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe.

The United States has been using this rostrum, the American representative Kempelman primarily, in order to reproach the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for infringing human rights. These speculative moves are absolutely unsubstantiated. They are quite without foundation, although the Americans themselves should approach this matter from other standpoints. The problem of racial inequality in the United States and its support for racist regimes and fascist dictatorships are facts which speak for themselves. But once again, the Madrid meeting has been failing to make any headway and it is also difficult to set this down on the credit side. [as heard] In this connection, the European states, I think one could say without any reservation all European states, desire the speedist possible positive completion of the work of this meeting. The stances adopted by the socialist countries and the NATO member countries are, of course, different, but at the same time there is a desire to work out a generally acceptable document. However, the United States, it seems to me, is acting from a standpoint which indeed is hampering everyone.

[Bovin] I think this is characteristic of the policy of the present administration because, in general, whatever line of American policy you take, it is difficult to speak of the constructiveness of that policy. It is rather directed at creating fresh international difficulties and at making it more complicated and more difficult to find any kind of urgent solutions.

The position that the Americans adopted in Madrid fits fully into the framework of such a policy. In general, I think that it is difficult to expect that the present American Administration will alter its policy there.

UN Vote on Nuclear Arms

[Levin] At the same time, summing up the results of the events which have taken place this week, I would like to draw attention to another event, the voting at the session of the UN General Assembly on the proposal to freeze nuclear arsenals. Indeed, the overwhelming majority of states, 122 states, expressed themselves in favor of an immediate freeze of nuclear arsenals. There were 16 votes against one resolution and 17 against the other resolution. This means that the will of the peoples was expressed in a very distinct way, and the will of the peoples shows that the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy and its consistent struggle for peace are meeting with an ever broader response among the international public and among the community of states.

[Shishlin] On this good note, Viktor Nikolayevich, we may surely bring our program today to a close.

[Levin] Yes, indeed. Our time has elapsed. Thank you, esteemed comrades, for your attention. All the best to you.

KOVALEV ADDRESSES MADRID CSCE MEETING

LD171826 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Madrid December 17 TASS -- A recess has been announced at the Madrid meeting of participatory states in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Intensive work on the document of neutral and non-aligned countries, which is the basis of the talks, was conducted during the past week. This work was conducted both at meetings of heads of delegations and in the editorial group.

The plenary meeting was addressed by the head of the USSR delegation, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Anatoliy Kovalev, who stressed the need for the Madrid meeting to adopt a decision on such a major question as the convocation of a conference on confidence-building measures and security and disarmament in Europe. The head of the Soviet delegation called on the delegations of participating countries to put an end to confrontation and fruitless polemics and to concentrate efforts on the attainment of substantial positive results.

The meeting will resume its work on February 8, 1983.

SCHEER BOOK DOCUMENTS REAGAN 'MILITARIST COURSE'

Kornilov Commentary

LD171700 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1347 GMT 17 Dec 82

["The Militaristic Course of the U.S. Administration and the Propaganda Tricks of Washington -- TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Dec (TASS) -- TASS Political Observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

"Radical changes have taken place in the United States since the 1980 elections. After Ronald Reagan came to power, U.S. leaders began to draft plans to wage a nuclear war against the Soviet Union, foreseeing the possibility of gaining a victory. They are now obsessed with the strategy of confrontation including balancing on the brink of nuclear war... President Reagan was in power for less than 1 year when he adopted a secret plan, which should give the United States the potential to win a victory in a prolonged nuclear war. Under this plan, set out in the so-called directive on national security, the United States for the first time assumes the premise that it is possible to win in a nuclear war." This is written by the distinguished American journalist, and LOS ANGELES TIMES correspondent Robert Scheer in his book: "With Enough Shovels: Reagan, Bush and Nuclear War."

Affirming this thesis with numerous and irrefutable facts, Scheer notes that when the present American administration came to power, "a whole clique of adherents of the 'cold war' from among the incorrigible hawks burst to the surface." These hawks are striving to achieve "by means of confrontation,"through exerting political and economic pressure, as well as through the threat of the use of arms, a radical change in the very nature of Soviet society." "If at the beginning, continues Scheer, the scale of these alterations was basically indiscernible, it was by no means because these people were hiding their convictions. As Eugene Rostrom, appointed by Reagan as director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency wrote before he assumed this office, "he is living in a prewar, and not a postwar world." Other statements by the staff of the Reagan government were just as unambiguous. Frank Carlucci, deputy defense secretary, for example, stated at Senate hearings devoted to his confirmation in that office, that we are now adhering to the idea "of creating the potential for waging a nuclear war," that is, the idea which presupposes that a nuclear war can be limited, that afterward it is possible to remain whole, and possible to win.

These and many other opinions and facts contained in Scheer's book reflect the very essence of today's U.S. foreign policy. Current U.S. policy is banking on force and is aimed at smashing -- at any price and with any means -- the approximate parity of forces -- having provided itself with a nuclear sword as long and sharp as possible -- in order to dictate its will to sovereign countries and peoples, whip up tension and push the world to the abyss of a nuclear catastrophe.

At the same time Scheer's book shows once again all the falsity and hypocrisy of those Washington figures who -- striving to mask the United States's aggressive imperial ambitions, its militarist course, which is dangerous to the cause of peace -- are attempting to operate with hackneyed fabrications about a nonexistent "Soviet threat" and to ascribe to the USSR some "aggressive plans."

Some people in the United States are even going so far as to assert — as was recently done, for example, by Pentagon boss Weinberger speaking in the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee -- that it is supposedly not the United States but the Soviet Union which worked out the doctrine asserting "the possibility of nuclear war and the possibility of winning it." Such assertions are nothing but lies; what is more, deliberate lies. There is no doubt that it is well known in Washington that Soviet foreign policy strategy and Soviet military doctrine have been and are built from the theory that was proclaimed at the 26th CPSU Congress, and which says: "To try to conquer each other in the arms race, to count on victory in a nuclear war is dangerous madness." Our country again and again -- including at the very highest level — has been stressing that to stake on winning a nuclear war is adventurism, and is destined to failure.

It is precisely such calculations, and Scheer's book reconfirms this, which lie, we repeat, at the base of the present agressive foreign policy course of the United States. The new plans to force through the deployment of American medium-range missiles in Europe signify a violation of the so-called NATO dual decision, while the measures being undertaken in the United States in the area of strategic nuclear weapons are equivalent to a unilateral rejection by Washington of a considerable part of the accords and provisions of the SALT treaties jointly elaborated by the USSR and United States. The Pentagon strategists, notes Scheer, proceed from the supposition that a nuclear conflict with the USSR may be lengthy. It is on the basis of such a supposition that they have worked out their strategy of waging such a war.

Ponomarev Commentary

LD181014 Moscow TASS in English 0950 GMT 19 Dec 82

["'Neohawks' Under the Canopy of the White House?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 19 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The Reagan administration's bent on a possibility of fighting a nuclear war and of winning it originated long before Ronald Reagan appeared in the White House. Surrounded by various "hawks" and "neohawks," before he became the head of the U.S. Administration, he virtually set about breaking the policy of coexistence of states with different political and social systems the policy which evolved and justified itself historically. Numerous facts and documented materials contained in a book by Robert Scheer, a prominent U.S. journalist, correspondent of the newspaper LOS ANGELES TIMES confirm the overt madness of the "new nuclear strategy" of the Reagan team. The book is entitled "With Enough Shovels: Reagan, Bush and Nuclear War" which painstakingly traces the stages of the shaping of the Reagan Administration's policy towards achieving U.S. superiority, towards preparation and a victory in a nuclear war.

The author of the book recalls how he was in an airplane and the man beside him was talking, setting out a whole system of activities by means of which, in his view, the USA "could survive nuclear war". The passenger said it would be a survival of some part of population and some of facilities, "but you could start again." The man telling me all this was Ronald Reagan, the author writes, as I interviewed him on a flight from Birmingham to Orlando where he was heading to pick up some votes in the upcoming 1980 Florida Republican primary.

Upon taking the office of the president, Reagan presently endorsed a secret directive, a national security decision document, Scheer writes, which was the first political statement by a U.S. administration to proclaim that U.S. strategic forces "must be able to win a protracted nuclear war." On the basis of that directive a five-year plan for the conduct of such a war was worked out in the Pentagon. The plan was signed by Defence Secretary Weinberger.

The author of the book points out that, in the opinion of a number of prominent physicists, the plan "comes close to a declaration of war on the Soviet Union." Scheer writes that, of course, there were militant voices in previous U.S. governments. However, in the government of Reagan the U.S. nuclear-war advocates deviously meet no resistance at all. He quotes Lieutenant-General James W. Stansberry, commander of the Electronic Systems Division of the Air Force, as saying that "There is now a shift in strategic-warfare philosophy in the U.S." and that the country "must be prepared to fight and to keep on fighting."

Underlying this mad concept are the ideas of such "neohawks" as Eugene Rostow, Paul Nitze, Richard Perle, and Richard Pipes, whom the President greatly sympathizes with. The "neohawks", Scherr concludes, "want to threaten the use of nuclear weapons at a time of nuclear parity (with the Soviet Union -- TASS note), when such a threat jeopardizes not only the enemy but one's fellow-citizens as well." For the significance of parity, he stresses, is that both sides will be destroyed if we really do get high enough up the escalation ladder.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ASSAILS CREATION OF CENTCOM

LD171316 Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- The setting up of a new U.S. military command (Centcom), the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes today, is "fresh proof of the intensification of dangerous preparations by the U.S. imperialism, a part of its policy of threats directed at interference in the internal affairs of independent, sovereign states."

This Pentagon's decision, the newspaper points out today, means that the so-called Rapid Deployment Force is becoming a full-scale military unit of the U.S. Army. It differs from the conventional units by its capability to occupy territories lying at a distance of thousands of miles from the USA, the commander of the Rapid Deployment Force declares that it can do that very speedily.

The newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA recalls that the so-called "new strategy for Asia", the brainchild of the present U.S. Administration, lays emphasis on the use of the Armed Forces in Southwest Asia and the Indian Ocean, that is trains against that area the elite units of the U.S. Army, Air Force and Navy.

The newspaper writes: "When American monopolies rush where it smells of oil, one can describe it as plunder, as economic expansion, but when the big business is followed in the same direction by the American military machinery, the point at issue is military-political expansion, realisation of imperial ambitions. The role of the rapid deployment force, which makes now the bulk of Centcom, boils down in the final analysis to the suppression of national liberation movements and establishment of American rule in the region."

U.S. 'GLOBAL HEGEMONIST POLICY' SCORED

LD191356 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 19 TASS -- The strategy aimed at establishing U.S. dominance in South-West Asia and in East Africa is not something isolated. It is part and parcel of the global hegemonist policy of U.S. imperialism, KRASYANYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) writes today. The dangerous adventurism of that policy, the newspaper points out in an international review, manifests itself wherever a U.S. soldier or political (?emissary of) Washington appears.

The secret designs of Washington -- to a certain extent repeat the "Middle East scenario", choosing this time the south of Africa and Central America as "arenas" -- have been laid bare by Reagan's and Bush's recent visits to those regions, the review points out. Over there, just like in the Middle East, the USA counts on anti-people regimes in an attempt to reanimate in Latin America and to knock together anew in Africa notorious "pan-American" and "pan-African" forces in order to transfer gendarme functions to them.

The official aim of Bush, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA goes on, was an attempt to make a withdrawal of South African occupiers from Namibia dependent on a withdrawal from Angola of the Cuban troops contingent which is there at the request of Angola's legitimate government. In acutal fact, behind such "linkage" are far-reaching neocolonialist goals: to turn Namibia, as was stated by Sam Nujoma, leader of the South-West Africa People's Organization, into "yet another Lebanon", to bring about a split in the ranks of young African states, and to strengthen the military-political alliance with the Republic of South Africa under the signboard of "constructive cooperation."

The newspaper concludes that the deleterious consequences of the global hegemonist policy of U.S. imperialism are manifested in many regions of the world. It puts to use both its own military machine and the mercenary punitive forces of the most reactionary regimes which are being condemned and rejected by the world community.

RESULTS OF SHULTZ' WEST EUROPEAN TOUR APPRAISED

Confused U.S.-NATO Relations

LD192048 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1630 GMT 19 Dec 82

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Stanislav Kondrashev]

[Text] Another event of the week is the continuing trip around West Europe of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. He proceeded from Rome to Paris, from Paris to Madrid, and then to London. The trip by Shultz probably confirms the evaluation given by American observer (Flora Lewis), who wrote: Relations between the NATO allies are now so confused and contradictory that they can be evaluated however the observer pleases. It can be asserted with equal justification that the allies are at last beginning to get on with each other, and that the situation has never been so lamentable. In particular, the talks between Shultz and President Mitterrand ended with such an ambiguous result. If we take the military aspect Paris, alas, confirmed its support for the deployment of new U.S. missiles in West Europe, in the event of the failure of American-Soviet talks in Geneva. If we take the economic aspect, Paris categorically rejected Washington's claim to dictate any kind of global strategy in East-West relations.

Desired Results Not Obtained

LD291056 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has returned from his West European tour, during which he visited Bonn, Paris, Madrid, Rome, the Hague and London. According to Western press reports, when discussing questions of East-West trade relations he again resorted to the tactic of untying the hands of Washington's partners, of trying to get them to break off economic ties with the Soviet Union. However, judging from the reaction from the West European countries, these U.S. efforts are not achieving the desired results. The best that Shultz was able to achieve was that the Europeans agreed to continue to look at this question.

PRAVDA ON GROWING PEACE MOVEMENT IN U.S.

LD191612 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0025 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec (TASS) -- The White House is making great efforts -- issuing threats and promises -- in order to get the money from Congress to produce the new MX missiles in circumvention of the decision by the House of Representatives, PRAVDA writes today. All kinds of "compromise" proposals are being elaborated. The administration has managed to push its bill through the Senate. However, an amendment was also adopted banning the administration from making use of these weapons until Congress approves a new way of basing the missiles.

The variation in the attitudes of American electors is like a pendulum, swinging first to the right, then to the left, mostly under the influence of a domestic, economic impetus. In 1980 many Americans believed in the promises of the right, but in fact the promised "prosperity and peace through strength" turned out to be the severest economic crisis since the "Great Depression" of the 1930's, and is increasing the threat of a nuclear war.

A sobering-up process is now beginning. The pendulum has swung in a different direction. However the will of congressmen may be limited on the MX missile question, however they may search for a pretext to justify their "dove-like" decision in the eyes of the "hawks." It is clear that the legislators are aware at all times of the breathing of millions of compatriots at their backs, compatriots worried by the adventurism of the present administration. "The reactionary policy of the Reagan administration is meeting with ever greater dissatisfaction among American citizens," notes H. Winston, national chairman of the CPUSA.

Today, the peoples, as never before, are stepping onto the stagefront of history. There are powerful forces, capable of preserving peace, stresses PRAVDA.

REAGAN RADIO ADDRESS ON U.S. ECONOMY VIEWED

LD182108 Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Washington December 18 TASS -- President Reagan has addressed the nation on the radio today. He devoted main attention to the economic situation in the USA, summed up the results of his administration's activities in the outgoing year and touched upon prospects for the year of 1983. The President claimed with assumed optimism that America is allegedly confidently advancing along the path of resolving the problems, to which no due attention had been devoted in the past and which threatened to turn into a catastrophe for the country.

Meanwhile, it follows from the facts that as regards many basic indicators, such as the growth of the army of the unemployed, whose number has reached 12 million by the end of the year, industrial recession, the growth of the federal budget deficit, a decline in capital investments in industry and agriculture, the continuing drop in the living standards of common Americans, the outgoing year of 1982 was the worst in decades.

IZVESTIYA ATTACKS U.S. MILITARY PLANS IN ASIA

PM171639 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec 82 Morning Edition p 3

[V. Kassis "International Review": "The Pentagon's Shadow Over Asia"]

[Text] A few days ago news agencies carried a report of a few lines stating that Japanese-U.S. exercises entitled Yamasakura-3 (Sakura Mountain-3), the largest in recent years, had begun on the northern island of the Japanese archipelago. In connection with this, the question arises. What dictated that these exercises should be held on Hokkaido? There is just one answer: provocative aims.

Hokkaido is Japan's second largest island and the closest to the USSR's shores. The island's population is interested in maintaining multifaceted good-neighborly ties with our country. This is unacceptable to those forces in Japan who are continuing to brandish the bugbear of the "threat from the north" and who are making the solution of all questions of USSR-Japan mutual relations directly dependent on the satisfaction of Japan's illegal territorial claims against the USSR.

So here we have Japan's generals from the "Self-Defense Forces" and their U.S. partners -- or rather, their tutors and commanders in chief -- striving to move the air force, tanks, artillery and infantry nearer to the Soviet border and to demonstrate their "strength and power," so to speak.

It is scarcely worth asking whether anyone is frightened by the clatter of the boots of the Japanese armed forces -- they hae already been heard before and the whole world knows how it all ended. There can be only one conclusion: On Washington's orders Tokyo is continuing to galvanize its routed battalions and build up their combat might. In practice the Japanese military industry resumed production in 1950. It was then that Japan's rearmament also began. According to Japanese press figures, the value of all military production is now nearly 1 trillion yen.

Furthermore, at a time when production growth in many industrial sectors is declining or is ceasing altogether, military production is increasing. Even firms which previously had nothing to do with the military market have now joined in the military business with great eagerness. Thus, for example, in addition to Nippon Electric, departments of the computer-manufacturing companies Fujitsu and Hitachi have joined the competitive struggle in winning orders for nine new automated control systems for air defense installations. Other firms are producing spares and all kinds of components for combat hardware. In this context, the journal JAPAN QUARTERLY notes that "the rapid expansion of Japan's military industry is the result of the U.S. 'from a position of strength' policy that Washington is pursuing."

And there is more: Washington and Tokyo or, rather, specific firms are no longer flirting with one another but are holding business talks on expanding bilateral cooperation. Literally a few days ago, for example, at a meeting between new Japanese Prime Minister Y. Nakasone and Foreign Minister S. Abe, the latter urgently recommended that the head of government "resolve as soon as possible and in a positive way the question of Japan's supply of military technology to the United States."

It is also characteristic that, when delivering his first policy speech to parliament, Prime Minister Y. Nakasone stressed that the United States is the main partner of his country, which is linked to Washington by close political, economic and other ties in the most diverse spheres and will continue to make efforts to strengthen the "relations of trust" between the two states.

There is no doubt regarding the "other ties" in question: military ties, of course.

Last summer in Honolulu, Z. Suzuki, the predecessor of the 27th postwar prime minister, expounded the concept of the creation of a so-called "Pacific community." He called for "mutual cooperation among the Pacific states" and obsequiously stressed the U.S. role in "maintaining stability in the region." Thereby the premier let it be known that Japan would continue to act as the main U.S. partner in this "mutual cooperation."

In this context is is necessary to recall that recently the U.S. mass media have been bandying the term "new U.S. strategy." What does this mean? It turns out that the Pentagon intends to deploy its crack formations (somewhat similar to the Green Berets who were driven out of Vietnam in disgrace) as well as the Navy and Air Force near the Persian Gulf and India. In actions in Northeast Asia it is planned to use Japanese and South Koreans who have been placed under arms.

And now the Pentagon has also formed the intention of setting up a U.S. special military command for operations in Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf area. In this context India's JANYUG newspaper stresses that "the creation of the new command is aimed at increasing the strike power of the gendarme Rapid Deployment Force which is designed for interventionist actions against the littoral states." This is from the same "new strategy" box.

Let us add that the "new strategy" concept also includes the idea harbored by Washington of transforming ASEAN -- the organization of a number of Southeast Asian countries pursuing economic goals — into a military grouping under the imperialist powers' control which would become a reliable link in that same "mutual cooperation" system. It should be noted, however, that the plans to militarize ASEAN are even at the present stage arousing the gravest fears in the ASEAN countries, and these are being expressed aloud.

Both the "new" U.S. "strategy" and the plans for the creation of the very dubious "community," of course, are in pursuit of far-reaching aims, and their implementation will further fuel the situation and create a threat to peace in Asia. The ASEAN members realize that such schemes are, on the one hand, a disguised form of neocolonialism leading to the economic enslavement of the states and, on the other, open the way to U.S. military-political hegemony in partnership with Japan.

On this score, for example, the Indonesia MERDEKA newspaper notes that the peoples of the region are anxiously following Japan's militarist preparations and its broadening military ties with the United States. The newspaper cites the following figures: there are now 119 U.S. military installations and about 50,000 U.S. officers and men stationed on Japanese soil. However, MERDEKA notes, the United States intends to use Japan as more than just a bridgehead. Particular unease is being caused by the fact that Washington's militarist calls are finding increasing understanding among Tokyo ruling circles. What we have here the newspaper writes, is a process of the "NATOization" of U.S.-Japanese relations and the creation of a "bridge" between the two countries' military-political alliance and the NATO bloc. Undoubtedly, Japan's army has been allocated a definite role in U.S. global strategy. The two countries' armed forces have already conducted over 130 joint maneuvers.

On this score let us cite the opinion of Indonesian Vice President Adam Malik, who has been visiting Japan.

In an interview given to a MAINICHI correspondent, he warned Tokyo against "strengthening its armed forces and broadening the sphere of their operations under pressure from Washington, pointing out that this would provoke an adverse reaction from neighboring states, including the Southeast Asian countries. A. Malik stressed that Japan "should take the path of peace if it wants to strengthen its positions in the international arena." He noted that an armed forces buildup would in no way "strengthen the country's security" as Tokyo asserts but would merely increase alarm among the neighboring peoples.

The journey made in October and November by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, it seems, can also be evaluated on the level of the "new" U.S. "strategy." He visited a number of Southeast Asian and South Pacific countries. What were the secretary's talks about? According to press reports, the Pentagon chief, digressing from the very acute -- primarily economic -- problems that are worrying the five countries' peoples, tried to convince those states' governments of the need to increase military spending, to hold more frequent joint military exercises and maneuvers with the United States and to establish regular contacts and links with the Pentagon's generals. And Weinberger asserted in his talks that in general, all the countries of this region should not trust in their own historical experience and reality but should wholly rely upon the opinion of Washington, which knows best what is good and bad for them.

And for even greater "plausibility" he then resorted to the well-known method of intimidation with the "Soviet military threat." When the secretary was asked about the U.S.-Japanese military alliance he played the hackneyed tune of "equitable partnership" and tried to convince his interlocutors that no militarization of the Land of the Rising Sun is under way.

On Weinberger's trip the newspaper NHAN DAN has written: The true aims of this trip were to nudge the states of the region onto the path of the arms race and to transform ASEAN into a military grouping hostile to Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

In the last few years the United States has supplied as "aid" or has sold to the ASEAN countries three times the quantity of weapons transferred in the previous 5 years. On this occasion, too, the U.S. secretary promised in particular to accelerate arms supplies and to increase military assistance to Thailand in the near future. These facts, NHAN DAN points out, attest to U.S. imperialism's extremely reactionary policy.

In addition to the U.S. doctrines and plans in Asia that have been announced, Washington is also continuing to implement secret operations aimed at undermining the stability of the region's independent states. This is indicated, for example, by the arrest of U.S. CIA agent (Vo Dey Ton) when attempting to cross the Vietnam border. During the investigation he stated that he had headed a large group of CIA-trained spies who hae been sent to the SRV to conduct counterrevolutionary activity.

Within the framework of the U.S. global approach to Asia, as it were, one can quite clearly see the outlines of a specific policy whose targets include such regions as the Near East, South Asia, the Indian Ocean, Southeast Asia and Oceania (although from the geographical standpoint this region does not even belong to Asia, Washington strategists still include it as an object of their Asian policy). Throughout the postwar decades the Pentagon has done its utmost to harness all and sundry to its war chariot while constantly threatening "sanctions" against those who display obstinacy or who refuse to accept the status of obedient partner.

Having assumed the role of policeman in Asia, Washington is sending its envoys there to persuade some, on the spot, to shoulder the burden of military expenditure and to threaten others with gunboats.

But the people of this vast region are refusing to accept the U.S. hegemonist policy. As Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum, "The USSR utterly rejects the viewpoint of those who would try to din into people that everything has been and will always be resolved by force and weapons. More than ever before the peoples are now moving to the forefront of history. They have acquired the right to a voice that no one can stifle."

The U.S. strategic line in Asia runs contrary to the vital interests of the peoples and the cause of ensuring lasting peace and security in that vast region of our planet. This is also confirmed by the antiwar demonstrations by Japanese workers and the signing of petitions by the peoples of other countries who are calling for Asia to be transformed into a zone of lasting peace.

U.S. SENATE URGES JAPANESE DEFENSE BUILDUP

OW181119 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently adopted a resolution calling on Japan to step up its defense efforts. In this connection, Moscow radio's Tokyo correspondent Igor Vykhukhalev has filed the following report:

It was the first time that a resolution calling for directly exercising influence on Japan's increase in its military spending has been adopted by the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The drafts of this resolution have been introduced in various forms since November last year but, in either case, they were meant to give directions to Japan or apply outrageous pressures on Japan with respect to the rate of increase in Japan's military expenditures or the ratio of defense spending to GNP.

The resolution adopted this time amounts to nothing but an open intervention in the domestic affairs of a sovereign nation. The resolution states that Japan should increase its annual defense spending at once in order to make arrangements for building a completely self-defensive posture by 1990 and to carry into practice the policy clarified by Prime Minister Suzuki at his May 1981 talks in Washington -- that is, the policy of defending 1,000 nautical miles of sealanes.

The resolution also demands that Japan drastically increase its share of the burden for the maintenance of U.S. forces in Japan and states that Japan should bear the entire costs for maintaining Japan-based U.S. warships and aircraft.

In an interview, Carl Levin, a Democratic senator from Michigan, said that this resolution calls on Japan to appropriate at least 1.5 percent to 2 percent of its GNP for annual defense spending until the end of the 1980's.

The Diet in Japan is presently deliberating the budget for the next fiscal year and Prime Minister Nakasone is scheduled to pay an official visit to the United States in less than a month from now as his first overseas trip since his inauguration.

The U.S. Senate chose such a time to adopt the resolution. Although the Japanese Government has yet to clarify its position on this, one thing is clear: That is, if Japan should accept the U.S. demand, it would run counter to Prime Minister Nakasone's Diet policy speech in which he said that Japan would not become a military power, nor would it pose a military threat to its neighbors.

U.S. INTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN VIEWED

OW131327 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Kabul dispatch by station correspondent]

[Text] While talking to the ordinary people, the workers, peasants and college students of Afghanistan, we can often hear them express the hope for peace in constructing a free and democratic new society and say they do not want to see other people disrupting their work and peaceful lives.

However, ever since the United States and its allies sent armed bandits into Afghanistan, the Afghan people could not but concomitantly step up construction and self-defense. The U.S. armed interference in Afghan affairs began immediately in the wake of the April Revolution in Afghanistan in 1978. Such interference has gradually developed into a de facto undeclared war and has exacerbated the tension in that region.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has unremittingly and consistently pursued a political solution to the situation in the region. Babrak Karmal, president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, regards preserving peace and tranquillity in the region as the nation's foremost foreign policy. As early as May 1980, and again in August 1981, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan presented specific proposals for normalizing the situation in the region and for building good-neighborly relations with Pakistan and Iran.

In Kabul's view, the basic guideline for finding a political solution to the region should mean a complete cessation of armed, or any other form of interference, in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. Kabul has invited its neighbors to hold talks and has agreed to hold either bilateral or trilateral talks with any other parties. Under mediation by an envoy of the secretary-general of the United Nations, the foreign ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan held their first round of talks in Geneva last summer.

Washington has gone all out to undermine Afghanistan's peace efforts. The United States is now expanding its undeclared war against Afghanistan and intensifying propaganda with slander, particularly slander against Soviet troops stationed in Afghanistan. It is known to all that a limited number of Soviet troops have been sent to Afghanistan at the request of the Democratic Republic to help the latter counter armed invasion, organized by the United States.

The Afghan foreign minister, Dost, said that the crux of the problem lies in the interference in Afghan internal affairs by some foreign countries and therefore, a solution to the problem requires cessation of such interference and an international guarantee not to resume such interference in the future. By that time, the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan would no longer be necessary. This constructive position of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has laid a solid foundation for normalizing the situation in the region surrounding Afghanistan. The goal of the foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is to strengthen international peace and security. To achieve this end, the Afghan Government has proposed a development of relations with all other countries, based on the principle of mutual equality.

AFGHAN OFFICIAL CITED ON U.S. CHEMICAL GRENADES

LD181420 Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Paris December 18 TASS — Speaking at a press conference, held here, deputy head of the International Department of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Asad Keshtmand dwelt on successful advancement of Afghanistan along the road of socio-economic transformations, that began in the country.

He emphasized that despite Western countries' economic blockade, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan attained significant successes in the sphere of economy. A major role in that was played by economic agreements, concluded with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Asad Keshtmand noted in this connection that owing to the Soviet Union's fraternal assistance a big part of Afghanistan's territory will be electrified by the end of the next year. Major changes took place in the sphere of agriculture and other branches of the national economy.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is now exerting huge efforts to resolve the problem of liquidation of illiteracy, said Asad Keshtmand, since before the April Revolution more than 90 per cent of the population could neither read nor write. In the country there are now more than 30,000 literacy courses, and a number of children who go to school increased from 24 to 70 per cent in the past four year.

These progressive transformations, said Asad Keshtmand, are taking place in exceedingly complicated conditions. Counter-revolutionary forces, the so-called "defenders of Islam", under the cover of the Koran and with the support of imperialist circles, plunder and kill people, destroy dwellings, schools and hospitals, other public structures.

Their actions are openly supported by international, above all American imperialism. Asad Keshtmand cited convincing testimony of participation of American advisers in training bandits in Pakistan, who are sent to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Distributed at the press conference were photographs of American chemical grenades and other weapons, labelled "Made in USA", that hired bandits are supplied with.

Asad Keshtmand emphasized the readiness of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to settle the Afghan problem through political means. We have already put forward a number of constructive realistic proposals to open negotiations with neighbouring Pakistan and Iran, that could be held both on a bilateral and multilateral basis. But the Afghan people, stressed Asad Keshtmand, shall never agree to the Afghan problem to be resolved without the direct participation of the legitimate Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

RELIGIOUS FIGURES ON SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTION

LD191224 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] The Soviet daily PRAVDA has published an interview from its Kabul correspondent with prominent religious figures Afghanistan. (Mauwali Wali Hajad), chairman of the Islam Affairs Committee of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the PRAVDA correspondent Oleg Kizenko reports, received me several days after the assassination by hired terrorists of (Ahmad Sakh Mas'udi) the iman of the Kabul cathedral mosque (Kiriaki Shahi). A prominent religious personality, member of the Supreme Council of the Ulemas and the clergy, member of the leadership of the National Patriotic Front, he was killed in his own home as he was saying his vespers.

By murdering (Ahmad Sakh Mas'udi), (Wali Hajad) said, the enemies of our motherland wanted to intimidate that patriotic part of the clergy which had solidly sided with the revolutionary government. They sought to prevent Muslim priests from making common cause with the revolution, those ones who see for themselves that the changes being wrought in the countryside are a necessity. But the process is underway, (Wali Hajad) continued, and it is impossible to stop it.

The point is that a major part of our people welcome the April Revolution, among them very many clergymen. No doubt, the Afghan religious personality went on to say, one can intimidate separate individuals, but terrorism cannot work as far as all the people are concerned. Even in those parts where the counterrevolution is quite strong, a few people began to realise they will cut no ice with us. And although they may not speak about this openly, deep down in their hearts they are on the side of the revolution. And the same thing is happening to the clergy. This process would have developed still faster had it not been for outside interference in our internal affairs.

After a revolution some people who lose their privileges are out to restore former orders and they shun no means. Representatives of the ruling (?top) who have fled from Afghanistan received support from the imperialists. A network of camps has been set up in Pakistan, where American so-called advisers and local reactionaries arm and train that riff-raff and send gang after gang into our country to sack and plunder and kill. And all this is being done under the banner of Islam, (Wali Hajad) notes in indignation.

In his interview for the paper PRAVDA the chairman of the Supreme Council of the ulemas and clergy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Dr Sa'id Afghani, accused imperialist propaganda of distorting the state of affairs in revolutionary Afghanistan. This propaganda, Dr Afghani says, seeks to mislead not only the international public, but also my countrymen. But a lie, no matter how many times it's repeated, shall not become a truth. All those who have been duped eventually learn the truth about our new life, and more and more such countrymen, having overcome all obstacles, are returning to their home and (?hearths).

The program of transformations being implemented in Afghanistan responds to the aspirations and will of the overwhelming majority of our people. Ever more people see the light. This is why there is a growing grass roots support in this country for progressive reforms. Our people have made their choice, Dr Afghani said, and no hostile forces are to lead them astray. We patriotic clergy uphold the policy of our goverment. We are demanding that outside, inimical forces stop the undeclared war against our people and leave our country alone. It is high time to come to an understanding that a peaceful way is the only option for a settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. The most favorable opportunities toward this end are outlined in the proposals advanced by the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, said Dr Sa'id Afghani, a prominent Muslim religious personality of Afghanistan.

KABUL MEETING ON USSR ANNIVERSARY REPORTED

LD172340 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Dec 82

[From the Vremya newscast: Report by correspondents V. Fadeyev and D. Khavin]

[Text] In Kabul there has been a festive meeting dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

Babrak Karmal, members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, Central Committee secretaries, leaders of public organizations and Fikryat Tabeyev, USSR ambassador to the DRA, were in the presidium of the meeting. Numerous representatives of the Afghan public, frontranking workers from industry, members of youth and women's organizations and heads of diplomatic missions of many countries accredited in Kabul took part in the meeting.

At the meeting Anahita Ratbezad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society, delivered a speech on the role and universal significance of the formation of the USSR in the establishment of fraternal, comprehensive links between the Afghan and Soviet peoples. Comrade Ratebzad sent a heartfelt greeting and congratulations to the Soviet people on behalf of the people of Afghanistan and expressed confidence that the existing stable links between the two countries will be developed and strengthened in the future.

IZVESTIYA REPORT ON BENEFITS OF AFGHAN GAS FIELD

PM171025 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 5 December, Morning Edition, carries on page 3 at 1,000-word Kabul dispatch by own correspondent G. Ustinov entitled "A Sound Basis." The report, pegged to the fourth anniversary of the Soviet-Afghan Friendship, Good-Neighborliness and Cooperation Treaty, which is described in the editorial introduction as "an historic milestone on the path of expanding and deepening traditional good-neighborly Soviet-Afghan relations," describes how the Afghan people have benefited as a result of the creation of the Sheberghan gas field with the Soviet Union's active assistance.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF WORK IN AFGHANISTAN REPORTED

LD201310 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee, the government of the country and public organizations are taking urgent measures to remove the consequences of the severe earthquake which took place 15 December. As a result of this natural disaster, six people have died, a large number were injured and hundreds of Afghan families are homeless. The Afghan Red Crescent Society has made available to the population of the affected regions of Baghlan Province medical supplies, clothing, tents and blankets with a total value of more than 300,000 afghanis. Work of removing the consequences of the earthquake continues.

POWER ENGINEERING PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH INDIA

LD151436 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 15 Dec 82

[Text] A protocol was signed today in Delhi on cooperation between the USSR and India in the power engineering sphere, a dispatch from the Indian capital states. The protocol maps out the basic directions for the development of ties between the two countries in this very important sphere. A correspondent reports that the agreement provides for continuation of work on the thermal power station already under construction at (Minshechow) in MadhyaPradesh state, which will be one of the biggest in India. Altogether, more than 60 percent of electrical power in India is generated at stations built with the economic and technical aid of the Soviet Union.

BAYBAKOV MEETS WITH POLAND'S MALINOWSKI

LD172211 Moscow World Service in English 2000 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] A Soviet deputy prime minister, Nikolay Baybakov, has had a meeting in Moscow with his Polish counterpart Roman Malinowski. They discussed greater cooperation between the two countries in agriculture.

POLISH STATE COUNCIL SUSPENDS MARTIAL LAW

LD192030 Moscow TASS in English 1929 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Warsaw December 19 TASS -- PAP agency reports that Poland's Council of State has issued a decree suspending from December 31, 1982 over the entire territory of the Polish People's Republic martial law introduced for state security considerations on December 12 last year.

The Polish Sejm's regular session earlier approved changes tabled by the Council of State to the draft laws on special legal regulation during the martial law period and on special legal regulation during the period of the suspension of martial law.

Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Poland, speaking recently over Polish central television and radio, pointed out that the suspension of martial law means that its main provisions will be lifted by the year's end. Only those regulations which directly protect the interests of the state, national economy, and strengthen personal security of citizens should operate fully or to a limited degree on a temporary basis.

USSR-GDR INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS SIGNED

LD180046 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2015 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Correspondent Boris Melnichenko report]

[Excerpt] The USSR-GDR Intergovernmental Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation ended its work in Berlin today. The Soviet delegation was headed by Comrade Kostandov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The GDR delegation was led by Comrade Schuerer, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. The commission reviewed the progress in implementing the previously concluded agreements, and discussed tasks related to the preparation and coordination of the plans for the period 1986-1990, and also agreed on 12 intergovernmental and interdepartmental agreements directed toward the further development and extending of the economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries. Today these agreements were signed ceremoniously at the GDR Council of Ministers

TASS DENIES USSR INVOLVED IN ATTEMPT ON JOHN PAUL

LD171520 Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 17 Dec 82

["Absurd Insinuations" -- TASS headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received] -- Absurd insinuations that some socialist countries are involved in the attempt made on the life of Pope John Paul the Second in May of last year have been circulated in a number of Western states lately. This campaign, totally steeped in lies, is spearheaded against Bulgaria. Foul nods are made from time to time also in the direction of the Soviet Union. Such absurdities should be ignored in general, the more so that the slanderers have already got what they deserved. But here attempts are being made to speculate on the feelings of trusting people, in particular believers.

Facts show that the dirty tracks of this provocation are leading to those who support repressive regimes like those in Chile or El Salvador, who patronise the Israeli aggressors and terrorists, who are accustomed to daily manifestations of violence in their own country.

The immoral deeds of imperialist intelligence services evoke revulsion in every upright person. And is it of intelligence services alone? There should be no doubt that plans to fan by means of slander hostility for the Soviet Union and other socialist countries; to divert to some extent attention from the militaristic psychosis that accompanies the military preparations of the West, this giving rise to the growing alarm of broad masses of the population irrespective of social conviction or creed, will end in failure.

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GROMYKO RECEIVES FINNISH AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW

LD181336 Moscow TASS in English 1313 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 18 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko today received Ambassador of the Republic of Finland in the USSR Jaakko Hallama in connection with his coming departure for home.

Some questions of Soviet-Finnish relations were discussed during the talk which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Jaakko Hallama conveyed to Andrey Gromyko congratulations on the occasions of the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

Satisfaction with the state of Soviet-Finnish relations was expressed from both sides. The recent visit to Finland of the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov and his negotiations with President Mauno Koivisto and other statesmen of Finland is a good example of successes in the development of goodneighbourly relations between the two countries.

SOVIET-FINNISH PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION SIGNED

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[Text] Helsinki December 17 TASS -- A protocol of the 37th meeting of the standing intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish Commission on Economic Cooperation was signed here today.

The commission studied the course of fulfilment of the five-year trade agreement for 1981-1985 and the long-term programme of developing and deepening trade, economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Finland.

In accordance with the results of the talks in December 1982 between the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers N.A. Tikhonov and the President of the Finnish Republic M. Kovisto the commission decided to start in 1983 the drafting of the guidelines of the agreement on trade turnover and payments for 1986-1990, and of a protocol on specifying and extending to the year 2000 the long-term programme of developing and deepening trade, economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Finland.

Special attention was given to the expansion of cooperation in the field of construction and modernisation of industrial facilities and also in the field of industrial cooperation.

Taking part in the commission's work were chairman of the Soviet part of the commission, Minister of Foreign Trade of the USSR N.S. Patolichev and the chairman of the Finnish part of the commission, Director General of the Finnish Bank A Karjalainen.

TIKHONOV ACTIVITIES IN KARELIA REPORTED

PM200901 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Dec 82 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Visit to Karelia"]

[Text] N. A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, left Moscow for Petrozavodsk 7 December. Together with M. Koivisto, president of the Republic of Finland, who is coming to our country at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Government, he will take part in the celebrations to mark the commissioning of the first stage of the Kostomuksha ore concentration combine, whish is being built in collaboration with Finnish firms.

N.A. Tikhonov was seen off at the airport by A.A. Gromyko, member [illegible]he CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs; M.S. Sol[illegible]tsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the [illegible]FSR Council of Ministers; I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Deputy Chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers I.I. Bodyul, V.E. Nuriyev, L.V. Smirnov and N.V. Talyzin; M.S. Smirtyukov, administrator of affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR ministers and other officials.

The send-off party included Finnish Ambassador to the USSR J. Hallama.

N.A. Tikhonov was met in Petrozavodsk by I.I. Senkin, first secretary of the Karelian Obkom; A.A. Kochetov, chairman of the Karelian ASSR Council of Ministers; members of the obkom bureau and other officials.

N.A. Tikhonov laid flowers at the V.I. Lenin Monument, and a wreath was laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

N.A. Tikhonov visited the V.I. Lenin Petrozavodskmash Production Association the same day. He toured the shops and was shown examples of goods destined for the pulp and paper, petrochemical and gas industries. The enterprise makes, among other things, valves for the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline.

Within the framework of Soviet-Finnish economic cooperation, the association actively cooperates with that friendly country's firms.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers visited the Onega tractor plant. While familiarizing himself with the enterprise, which makes Caterpillar tractors for labor-intensive logging operations, he inquired about working conditions and progress to date in fulfilling socialist pledges in honor of the USSR's 60th anniversary.

The further strengthening of the economy, N.A. Tikhonov noted in conversation with the enterprises' workers, engineering and technical staff and management, depends on the efforts of every member of the collective, in whatever sphere he works. It is important to constantly increase the active participation of workers and specialists in innovatory initiatives, in organizing integrated teams working to a common work schedule and in improving the economic machinery. Economic, party, trade union and Komsomol organizations have a duty to be still more attentive to the working person's needs and to create a climate in which people approach their work creatively, are highly exacting and refuse to tolerate shortcomings.

A conversation took place at the obkom between N.A. Tikhonov and the party, soviet and economic aktiv. He said that Comrade Yu. V. Andropov has asked him to convey greetings to collectives of working people in the republic and to wish them success in fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the Party Central Committee November (1982) plenum.

Speaking about fulfilling the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the instructions and recommendations contained in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech there, he drew attention to the need to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of exacting plan targets. They are to be fulfilled for relatively less expenditure of materials and manpower.

It is extremely important to harness all existing potential for improving economic activity, accelerating scientific progress and increasing labor productivity -- the main indicator of the economy's efficiency -- in order to increase output and improve product quality, including that of consumer goods. It is necessary to endeavor to ensure that only high-quality goods are produced.

Much attention was paid at the meeting to the tasks involved in the Food Program's implementation. Its implementation, N.A. Tikhonov said, is a task of paramount importance. Every farm, no matter which geographical zone it is in, must actively concern itself with this.

GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS CONCLUDES

LD191456 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Athens December 19 TASS -- The Eleventh Congress of the Communist Party of Greece has come to a close here. It has become another reaffirmation of the fact that the Communist Party of Greece, basing its activities on the theory of Marxism-Leninism, on the principles of proletarian internationalism, firmly holds class positions and is a militant vanguard of the working class and of all the working people of Greece.

Who is represented by the Communist Party of Greece is eloquently indicated by the list of delegates to the congress. The list was promulgated by the credentials commission. Almost forty percent of the delegates are workers who, together with peasants and employees, account about two-thirds of the delegates.

Noting the successes achieved by the party in the cause of struggle for the interests of the working class and all working people and in the cause of implementation of a policy of changes in Greece, the delegates in their speeches invariably emphasized that the present day sets new and more complex tasks to the Greek Communists both on an internal political plane, and from the viewpoint of defence of peace and detente and struggle for the unity of the international communist movement. Summing up the results of the discussion of the report of the party's Central Committee, Harilaos Florakis, general secretary of the party's Central Committee, made a closing speech at the congress. The discussion, he pointed out, confirmed that the party has accumulated political capital to meet new requirements in order to raise still higher its importance in the country's life and to be worthy of its role of a vanguard force and the main mouthpiece of a policy of real changes in Greece. The discussion of such problems as the struggle for peace and disarmament, relations with the international communist movement, matters of political and economic development of the country, strategy and tactics of the party, and the struggle for democracy and socialism will serve as an important contribution and as a considerable help in the cause of further perfection of the party's work. The discussion has also reaffirmed the ideological and political unity of the Communist Party of Greece.

Ponomarev Delegation Returns

LD191704 Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow, December 19 TASS -- A CPSU delegation, led by Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned to Moscow today. The delegation took part in the work of the 11th Congress of the Communist Party of Greece.

MARCHUK MEETS WITH GREEK RESEARCH MINISTER

PM200847 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Dec 82 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] As part of the third session of the mixed Soviet-Greek Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation, being held in Moscow, G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received Y. Lianis, Greek minister for research and technology, on 7 December. They discussed prospects for the development of scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

1982 SOVIET-GREEK RELATIONS SUMMARIZED

LD172126 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1600 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Dear listeners, we begin today a series of talks containing an analysis of the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Greece during the current year. In the first of these talks our commentator will speak about Soviet-Greek political relations:

The year which is ending is without exaggeration rich in important events in Soviet-Greek relations.

In this respect it has continued from previous years in the traditional good ties between the Soviet Union and Greece, based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, nonintervention of one state in the domestic affairs of the other, and mutual advantage, achieving substantial progress in the period following the fall of the military dictatorial regime in Greece.

A most important document, embodying the fundamental principles of interstate relations, was the Soviet-Greek declaration signed in Moscow in 1979. The aim of the two sides, secured in the declaration to develop and perfect their bilateral relations, was consolidated through a series of agreements embracing various areas of cooperation. In this way firm foundations were laid for the further deepening of relations between the two countries. The year 1982 was not simply another step in the upward climb of Soviet-Greek relations. It was the first year of Panhellenic Socialist Movement [PASOK] rule in Greece, and PASOK, up to the time of its victory at the parliamentary elections of 1981, had repeatedly spoken of its plans to implement an independent foreign policy, to develop its relations with all countries including socialist ones. Soviet public opinion (?underscores) with a feeling of approbation the new Greek Government's aim to contribute to the establishment of peace and international security. The Soviet people received with satisfaction Prime Minister Papandreou's support for the Soviet Union's peace-loving policies in the field of foreign policy, which seek to establish peace, to eliminate the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe, to end the arms race and to achieve disarmament.

An important event in the political relations between the Soviet Union and Greece was the meeting between the prime ministers of the two countries, Nikolay Tikhonov and Andreas Papandreou, in Moscow on 15 November. The Greek premier's visit to the Soviet Union was connected with the sad event in the life of our people — the death of Leonid Brezhnev. The personal attendance of the Greek leader at the funeral ceremony in Moscow was accepted as an expression of respect to the memory of the distinguished, state and political figure who dedicated his life to the struggle for peace and cooperation among peoples. The heads of the governments of the Soviet Union and Greece expressed satisfaction with the development of Soviet-Greek relations and underlined the existence of favorable conditions for the further fruitful cooperation in the interests of the peoples of the two countries.

Interparliamentary relations were also strengthened in the year which is ending. An expression of the mutual aim of the two countries' parliamentarians for closer cooperation was the founding of a Greek-Soviet group in the Greek Parliament and of an equivalent Soviet-Greek section of the parliamentary group of the Soviet Union.

A great role in the strengthening of political relations between our countries belongs to interparty relations, whose scope has recently been substantially expanded. Apart from the already established cooperation between the CPSU and the Greek Communist Party, contacts between the CPSU and PASOK have also been fixed. The first experience of such cooperation was acquired in April 1981 when PASOK was not yet the party in power. At that time a Greek delegation visited the Soviet Union led by Akis Tsokhatzopoulos, member of the PASOK Central Committee Executive Bureau and present public works minister of Greece. Recently a Soviet party delegation led by Vladimir Terebilov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and justice minister of the Soviet Union, returned the visit to Greece. At a meeting of the delegation members with Greek Prime Minister Mr Papandreou, it was stressed that on many international issues the positions of Greece and the Soviet Union are either very close or coincide. The view was expressed that it is necessary to develop and strengthen further relations between the two countries.

In assessing the results of 1982, we can say with certainty that it was a new landmark in the strengthening of the traditional friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Greece, and an important stage in the development of the cooperation between our countries in various fields, our commentator concludes.

U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE ENDS WEST EUROPE TOUR

Shultz, Thatcher Talks

LD181634 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] London December 18 TASS -- Negotiations between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Prime Minister of Britain Margaret Thatcher, other British leaders ended here today. London is the last leg of the West European tour of the U.S. secretary of state which took him to Brussels, Bonn, Paris, Madrid, Rome and The Hague.

The main aim of George Shultz's West European trip, local political observers point out, was Washington's "coordination" of military policy, conducted by Western countries within the NATO framework. It is not concealed here that in the course of George Shultz's "consultations" he tried to press upon West European allies to even more step up their military preparations.

The local press points out that the visit of the secretary of state was held in an atmosphere of the growing movement of protest on the continent against the Reagan administration's course of escalation of the arms race, the protest against deployment on the territory of a number of West European states of new American medium-range nuclear missile weapons.

Western Europe displays nervosity [as received] and anxiety over U.S. nuclear armaments, writes the newspaper TIMES. FINANCIAL TIMES admits that the Labour Party and the peace movement express ever greater anxiety over the fact that the country is being turned into a huge arsenal of American nuclear weapons, lack of control over which on the part of the British Government heightens the danger to the British Isles and their population.

During the negotiations George Shultz made an attempt to "alleviate" acute differences between Washington and its partners in the trade-economic and financial spheres.

Local observers note that West European countries negatively treat the pressure exerted upon them with a view of curtailing trade and economic links with the Soviet Union and other socialist states.

Summary of Trip

LD191630 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2327 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Washington 18 Dec (TASS) -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz returned from a 12-day tour of West Europe on Saturday. He took part in the work of the NATO Council session in Brussels, which took place following sessions of this bloc's military organs, and also visited the FRG, France, Italy, Spain, Holland and Britain.

The main purpose pursued by Shultz' tour amounted to that of intensifying pressure upon the West European allies of the United States with the object of compelling them to agree to the commencement of the deployment on their territory in 1983 of new American medium-range nuclear missile weaponry -- the cruise and Pershing II missiles. The talks between the secretary of state and the West European leaders on this question took place against a background of powerful antiwar demonstrations in a number of states, including Britain.

Babrak Karmal, members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, Central Committee secretaries, leaders of public organizations and Fikryat Tabeyev, USSR ambassador to the DRA, were in the presidium of the meeting. Numerous representatives of the Afghan public, frontranking workers from industry, members of youth and women's organizations and heads of diplomatic missions of many countries accredited in Kabul took part in the meeting.

At the meeting Anahita Ratbezad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society, delivered a speech on the role and universal significance of the formation of the USSR in the establishment of fraternal, comprehensive links between the Afghan and Soviet peoples. Comrade Ratebzad sent a heartfelt greeting and congratulations to the Soviet people on behalf of the people of Afghanistan and expressed confidence that the existing stable links between the two countries will be developed and strengthened in the future.

IZVESTIYA REPORT ON BENEFITS OF AFGHAN GAS FIELD

PM171025 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 5 December, Morning Edition, carries on page 3 at 1,000-word Kabul dispatch by own correspondent G. Ustinov entitled "A Sound Basis." The report, pegged to the fourth anniversary of the Soviet-Afghan Friendship, Good-Neighborliness and Cooperation Treaty, which is described in the editorial introduction as "an historic milestone on the path of expanding and deepening traditional good-neighborly Soviet-Afghan relations," describes how the Afghan people have benefited as a result of the creation of the Sheberghan gas field with the Soviet Union's active assistance.

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A conversation took place at the obkom between N.A. Tikhonov and the party, soviet and economic aktiv. He said that Comrade Yu. V. Andropov has asked him to convey greetings to collectives of working people in the republic and to wish them success in fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the Party Central Committee November (1982) plenum.

Speaking about fulfilling the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the instructions and recommendations contained in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech there, he drew attention to the need to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of exacting plan targets. They are to be fulfilled for relatively less expenditure of materials and manpower.

It is extremely important to harness all existing potential for improving economic activity, accelerating scientific progress and increasing labor productivity -- the main indicator of the economy's efficiency -- in order to increase output and improve product quality, including that of consumer goods. It is necessary to endeavor to ensure that only high-quality goods are produced.

Much attention was paid at the meeting to the tasks involved in the Food Program's implementation. Its implementation, N.A. Tikhonov said, is a task of paramount importance. Every farm, no matter which geographical zone it is in, must actively concern itself with this.

GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS CONCLUDES

LD191456 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Athens December 19 TASS -- The Eleventh Congress of the Communist Party of Greece has come to a close here. It has become another reaffirmation of the fact that the Communist Party of Greece, basing its activities on the theory of Marxism-Leninism, on the principles of proletarian internationalism, firmly holds class positions and is a militant vanguard of the working class and of all the working people of Greece.

Who is represented by the Communist Party of Greece is eloquently indicated by the list of delegates to the congress. The list was promulgated by the credentials commission. Almost forty percent of the delegates are workers who, together with peasants and employees, account about two-thirds of the delegates.

Noting the successes achieved by the party in the cause of struggle for the interests of the working class and all working people and in the cause of implementation of a policy of changes in Greece, the delegates in their speeches invariably emphasized that the present day sets new and more complex tasks to the Greek Communists both on an internal political plane, and from the viewpoint of defence of peace and detente and struggle for the unity of the international communist movement. Summing up the results of the discussion of the report of the party's Central Committee, Harilaos Florakis, general secretary of the party's Central Committee, made a closing speech at the congress. The discussion, he pointed out, confirmed that the party has accumulated political capital to meet new requirements in order to raise still higher its importance in the country's life and to be worthy of its role of a vanguard force and the main mouthpiece of a policy of real changes in Greece. The discussion of such problems as the struggle for peace and disarmament, relations with the international communist movement, matters of political and economic development of the country, strategy and tactics of the party, and the struggle for democracy and socialism will serve as an important contribution and as a considerable help in the cause of further perfection of the party's work. The discussion has also reaffirmed the ideological and political unity of the Communist Party of Greece.

Ponomarev Delegation Returns

LD191704 Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow, December 19 TASS -- A CPSU delegation, led by Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned to Moscow today. The delegation took part in the work of the 11th Congress of the Communist Party of Greece.

MARCHUK MEETS WITH GREEK RESEARCH MINISTER

PM200847 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Dec 82 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] As part of the third session of the mixed Soviet-Greek Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation, being held in Moscow, G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received Y. Lianis, Greek minister for research and technology, on 7 December. They discussed prospects for the development of scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

1982 SOVIET-GREEK RELATIONS SUMMARIZED

LD172126 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1600 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Dear listeners, we begin today a series of talks containing an analysis of the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Greece during the current year. In the first of these talks our commentator will speak about Soviet-Greek political relations:

The year which is ending is without exaggeration rich in important events in Soviet-Greek relations.

In this respect it has continued from previous years in the traditional good ties between the Soviet Union and Greece, based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, nonintervention of one state in the domestic affairs of the other, and mutual advantage, achieving substantial progress in the period following the fall of the military dictatorial regime in Greece.

A most important document, embodying the fundamental principles of interstate relations, was the Soviet-Greek declaration signed in Moscow in 1979. The aim of the two sides, secured in the declaration to develop and perfect their bilateral relations, was consolidated through a series of agreements embracing various areas of cooperation. In this way firm foundations were laid for the further deepening of relations between the two countries. The year 1982 was not simply another step in the upward climb of Soviet-Greek relations. It was the first year of Panhellenic Socialist Movement [PASOK] rule in Greece, and PASOK, up to the time of its victory at the parliamentary elections of 1981, had repeatedly spoken of its plans to implement an independent foreign policy, to develop its relations with all countries including socialist ones. Soviet public opinion (?underscores) with a feeling of approbation the new Greek Government's aim to contribute to the establishment of peace and international security. The Soviet people received with satisfaction Prime Minister Papandreou's support for the Soviet Union's peace-loving policies in the field of foreign policy, which seek to establish peace, to eliminate the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe, to end the arms race and to achieve disarmament.

An important event in the political relations between the Soviet Union and Greece was the meeting between the prime ministers of the two countries, Nikolay Tikhonov and Andreas Papandreou, in Moscow on 15 November. The Greek premier's visit to the Soviet Union was connected with the sad event in the life of our people — the death of Leonid Brezhnev. The personal attendance of the Greek leader at the funeral ceremony in Moscow was accepted as an expression of respect to the memory of the distinguished, state and political figure who dedicated his life to the struggle for peace and cooperation among peoples. The heads of the governments of the Soviet Union and Greece expressed satisfaction with the development of Soviet-Greek relations and underlined the existence of favorable conditions for the further fruitful cooperation in the interests of the peoples of the two countries.

Interparliamentary relations were also strengthened in the year which is ending. An expression of the mutual aim of the two countries' parliamentarians for closer cooperation was the founding of a Greek-Soviet group in the Greek Parliament and of an equivalent Soviet-Greek section of the parliamentary group of the Soviet Union.

A great role in the strengthening of political relations between our countries belongs to interparty relations, whose scope has recently been substantially expanded. Apart from the already established cooperation between the CPSU and the Greek Communist Party, contacts between the CPSU and PASOK have also been fixed. The first experience of such cooperation was acquired in April 1981 when PASOK was not yet the party in power. At that time a Greek delegation visited the Soviet Union led by Akis Tsokhatzopoulos, member of the PASOK Central Committee Executive Bureau and present public works minister of Greece. Recently a Soviet party delegation led by Vladimir Terebilov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and justice minister of the Soviet Union, returned the visit to Greece. At a meeting of the delegation members with Greek Prime Minister Mr Papandreou, it was stressed that on many international issues the positions of Greece and the Soviet Union are either very close or coincide. The view was expressed that it is necessary to develop and strengthen further relations between the two countries.

In assessing the results of 1982, we can say with certainty that it was a new landmark in the strengthening of the traditional friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Greece, and an important stage in the development of the cooperation between our countries in various fields, our commentator concludes.

U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE ENDS WEST EUROPE TOUR

Shultz, Thatcher Talks

LD181634 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] London December 18 TASS -- Negotiations between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Prime Minister of Britain Margaret Thatcher, other British leaders ended here today. London is the last leg of the West European tour of the U.S. secretary of state which took him to Brussels, Bonn, Paris, Madrid, Rome and The Hague.

The main aim of George Shultz's West European trip, local political observers point out, was Washington's "coordination" of military policy, conducted by Western countries within the NATO framework. It is not concealed here that in the course of George Shultz's "consultations" he tried to press upon West European allies to even more step up their military preparations.

The local press points out that the visit of the secretary of state was held in an atmosphere of the growing movement of protest on the continent against the Reagan administration's course of escalation of the arms race, the protest against deployment on the territory of a number of West European states of new American medium-range nuclear missile weapons.

Western Europe displays nervosity [as received] and anxiety over U.S. nuclear armaments, writes the newspaper TIMES. FINANCIAL TIMES admits that the Labour Party and the peace movement express ever greater anxiety over the fact that the country is being turned into a huge arsenal of American nuclear weapons, lack of control over which on the part of the British Government heightens the danger to the British Isles and their population.

During the negotiations George Shultz made an attempt to "alleviate" acute differences between Washington and its partners in the trade-economic and financial spheres.

Local observers note that West European countries negatively treat the pressure exerted upon them with a view of curtailing trade and economic links with the Soviet Union and other socialist states.

Summary of Trip

LD191630 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2327 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Washington 18 Dec (TASS) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz returned from a 12-day tour of West Europe on Saturday. He took part in the work of the NATO Council session in Brussels, which took place following sessions of this bloc's military organs, and also visited the FRG, France, Italy, Spain, Holland and Britain.

The main purpose pursued by Shultz' tour amounted to that of intensifying pressure upon the West European allies of the United States with the object of compelling them to agree to the commencement of the deployment on their territory in 1983 of new American medium-range nuclear missile weaponry -- the cruise and Pershing II missiles. The talks between the secretary of state and the West European leaders on this question took place against a background of powerful antiwar demonstrations in a number of states, including Britain.

As the press notes, many European leaders are alarmed by the growth in public opposition to the dangerous plans of Washington, which is trying to transform West Europe into Pentagon's nuclear hostage. The journey by Shultz also showed that at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on the limitation of medium-range weapons, the United States does not intend to give up the so-called 'zero option' it has put forward, which demands unilateral disarmament from the USSR.

The talks on questions of economy and trade again revealed the existence of extremely serious differences between the United States and West Europe in this field.

FRG GOVERNMENT FAILS TO WIN CONFIDENCE VOTE

LD171450 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Bonn December 17 TASS -- The FRG Government, consisting of representatives of the CSU-CDU [Christian Socialist Union - Christian Democratic Union] and the Free Democratic Party, failed to win a confidence vote today. At a meeting of the Bundestag the overwhelming majority of deputies of the ruling conservative-liberal coalition abstained while the Social Democrats voted against the motion of confidence in the government. The question of the vote of confidence was raised by Chancellor Kohl himself.

In accordance with the Constitution of the FRG the head of the West German Government will now ask the president of the country to dissolve parliament and appoint pre-term elections to the Bundestag. The president has 21 days to make this decision. Before the parliamentary elections both the Bundestag and the government will continue discharging their duties. As it has been repeatedly stated by Helmut Kohl and other West German politicians the pre-term Bundestag elections are planned for March 6 next year.

U.S. INVOLVES PORTUGAL IN 'WAR PREPARATIONS'

LD161520 Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Washington December 16 TASS -- The United States is dragging Portugal ever deeper into the orbit of its war preparations. This is the main conclusion which can be drawn from the White House talks between President Reagan and Portugese Prime Minister Francisco Pinto Balsemao paying an official visit to the United States. The main purpose of the talks, according to the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES, was the extension and strengthening of military contacts between Washington and Lisbon.

According to an AP news dispatch, Ronald Reagan demanded during the talks that the Portuguese Government move speedier to conclude a new bilateral military agreement instead of the existing one, which expires next February. Under the new five-year agreement, currently being negotiated in Lisbon, the Pentagon will have the right not only to continue using the Lajes strategic air base on the Portuguese Azores Islands but will considerably step up its military presence there. The U.S. brass, it is pointed out here, pins on this agreement their far-reaching hopes for expanding NATO's "sphere of action." This question will be discussed in detail at a meeting between Pinto Balsemao and U.S. Defence Secretary Weinberger.

In addition, Washington tries to secure from Lisbon access to Portuguese military bases for its police Rapid Deployment Force, cobbled together to ensure U.S. "vital interests" in the oil-rich region of the Middle East and Persian Gulf.

In exchange the U.S. President offered Portugal continued assistance in its program to "modernise" its Armed Forces. According to Washington officials, during the current fiscal year U.S. "aid" to Portugal, mostly military aid, will reach 110 million dollars, a 25 million dollars rise over last year. The U.S. Administration also offered larger supplies of U.S. weapons on preferential terms.

In addition to the strengthening of strategic cooperation between the United States and Portugal and NATO's further military build-up, the talks in the White House, according to U.S. officials, also covered East-West relations. The situation in the Middle East, in southern Africa, and also in South and Central America. According to a high-ranking spokesman for the U.S. Administration, Reagan and Pinto Balsemao have reached agreement in substance on all these questions.

PORTUGUESE PREMIER'S U.S. VISIT CRITICIZED

LD181356 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] The democratic press in Lisbon is sharply criticizing the inauspicious results of the visit to the United States by Portuguese Prime Minister Pinto Balsemao.

Eduard Kovalev, writer on INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, [MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN], notes that the head of the Portuguese Government has just returned to Libson. Although his 3-day visit to the United States was subject to official propaganda as a "new step in the development of Portuguese-U.S. relations," in actual fact there have been no radical changes made, of course, to those relations. Portugal remains, as before, dependent on the United States, and U.S. imperialism will use it as an advantageous bridgehead on the Iberian peninsula for its own geopolitical, aggressive purposes.

In crossing the ocean, the Portuguese prime minister hoped to obtain the credits and loans so necessary to his country to try to emerge from the economic crisis. He saw his visit to the United States, too, as a useful political act capable of strenthening his government's position following the unsuccessful local elections on 12 December in which the government coalition was defeated. However, as we all know, the Washington administration does nothing for its partners unless it obtains some fresh concessions from them, and the concessions have to be made first. And the same thing happened this time, too: There were vague promises of economic aid and political solidarity from the U.S. Administration in exchange for quite specific pledges from the Portuguese side. Thus, in addition to the pledge to extend the lease to the Americans on the major Air Force base of Lajes in the Azores, for which Portugal will receive just $90 million next year, Balsemao pledged independently of that agreement to grant the United States a lease on a new military base which the Pentagon is hurrying to reserve for itself in the event of unforeseen complications arising with the U.S. bases in Spain.

With bases at Lajes and on the Portuguese mainland, the United States can confidently count on both of them becoming important centers for the transfer, when necessary, of shock units of the U.S. gendarme Rapid Deployment Force to hotspots in the Mediterranean, the Near East and the Persian Gulf.

The Portuguese Government is thus involving its country in the dangerous militarist plans of the Washington rulers and disregarding the interests of its own people. Not surprisingly, Portuguese democratic public opinion is sharply protesting this capitulation to Washington.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PORTUGUESE LOCAL ELECTIONS NOTED

U.S. Pressure

LD110510 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 1930 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Commentary by Aleksey Georgiyev]

[Text] There is no doubt that the significance of the up-coming elections transcends local government by far. They will make it possible to ascertain the true political balance of forces and will show the extent of the influence of any given political party or group. They will thus determine to a considerable extent the shape of political life in Portugal in the immediate future.

One would have thought this to be an exclusively Portuguese internal affair. However, on this occasion, as often in the recent past, outside helpers and meddlesome advisers are making their inevitable appearance. They come mainly from the United States.

During the election campaign there were frequent visits to Lisbon by high-powered Washington emissaries. Frank Carlucci was the first in the series. The present under secretary for defense, former deputy director of the CIA and U.S. ambassador to Portugal from 1975 to 1977 did his utmost during that dramatic period of Portugal's development -- by resorting to blackmail, pressures and provocations -- to arrest the process of democratization launched by the overthrow of the fascist dictatorship.

What brought the former ambassador and professional spy back to Portugal? The visitor himself told reporters on arrival that he intended to discuss matters of mutual interest with the Portuguese authorities, meet friends and simply have a rest. According to the local press, Carlucci had talks on the extention of the agreement on the Lajes Base in the Azores and on Portugal's participation in the plans of the Western contact group for a settlement of the Namibian question.

Most political observers have no doubt that he also discussed problems pertaining to internal developments in Portugal. It is not hard to guess what kind of advice would be offered to his Portuguese friends by such a specialist in containing the so-called leftwing threat.

Last week it was the turn of the present U.S. ambassador, Allen Holmes, pompously to hand over to the Azores autonomous government the latest sum provided in the framework of U.S. aid. It would be hard to believe that the timing was the fruit of mere chance.

On Monday, the need for a technical stop-over in the Azores prompted U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger to hold unofficial talks with the local authorities. On Tuesday, talks began in Lisbon on the Lajes base lease.

It is well known that the Democratic Alliance Government is pinning great hopes on these talks, especially because the Pinto Balsemao government is hoping to secure a bigger payment for the lease from the Americans, which might enable it to plug the holes in the country's shaky finances.

As for the United States, using dollars as bait, it undoubtedly expects its money not only to enable it to consolidate its positions in the Azores but also to elicit political dividend. The United States is obviously concerned by the growing dissatisfaction in Portugal with the policy of its loyal ally, the Democratic Alliance, and is therefore concerned about the improved position of the forces of the left.

Faithful to its unchanging tactics, the United States is again seeking to prevent by every means in its power the growth of the democratic forces' influence in Portugal.

Final Election Results

LD151930 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 15 Dec 82

[Text] Lisbon December 15 TASS -- The final results of the elections to local government bodies, held last Sunday in Portugal and marked by the success of the democratic forces, have been announced today.

The Union for the Unity of People, affiliating the Portuguese Communist Party -- which firmly upholds the interests of the working people -- the Portuguese Democratic Movement and the independent, holds firm positions. Its candidates received 20.7 percent of votes. Representatives of the Socialist Party received 31.1 percent of votes.

A statement of the Political Commission of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party, circulated here, stresses that the Union for the Unity of People has achieved a major victory at the elections and attained all the objects set.

The parties of the ruling bloc, the Democratic Alliance for New Majority, have lost a considerable part of votes. Its influence was weakened in the major cities of the country — Lisbon, Porto and Coimbre.

Prime Minister Resigns

LD190612 Moscow TASS in English 0543 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Lisbon December 19 TASS -- Prime Minister Pinto Balsemao of Portugal tendered his resignation. He announced his decision here at the current session of the national council of the Social Democratic Party. The opinion of Portuguese radio is that this is a consequence of the major setback suffered by the country's ruling bloc of right-wing parties, the "Democratic Alliance", at elections to the local government bodies on December 12. As a result of the elections the bloc lost a considerable number of votes.

It is not ruled out here that the resignation of the head of government may lead to dissolution of parliament and to the holding of early elections.

PRIMAKOV COMMENTS ON JORDANIAN-PLO TALKS

NC191829 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] While King Husayn of Jordan is in Washington, the Soviet Union has welcomed the talks between Jordan and the PLO on a confederal union between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. The director of the Soviet Orientalists Association, Primakov, told the weekly magazine MONDAY MORNING that the Jordanian-Palestinian talks are a positive factor and the PLO's efforts to solve the issue with Jordan must not face any obstacles from anyone. Pro-Syrian Palestinian organizations have strongly criticized the talks between Jordan and the organization.

The distinguished Soviet expert in Middle Eastern affairs explained his country's support, saying that the Jordanian-PLO agreement will not deprive the Palestinians of their right to self-determination and to the establishment of a national homeland, but will facilitate the implementation of this right.

Regarding the Soviet role during the Israeli siege of the Palestinians in Beirut, Primakov said Soviet diplomacy at that time was of a preventive nature which had a great effect on the U.S. leadership. The Soviet expert described President Reagan's Middle East peace plan as completely opposed to the Fes Arab peace plan, because it excludes the establishment of a Palestinian national homeland.

Primakov put forward three conditions for the success of the implementation of the Arab peace plan, which is supported by Moscow. These are Israel's abandoning its expansion, suspension of U.S. support for the Israeli annexation policy and Arab unity of ranks to end the effects of the Israeli aggression in 1967 and its aggression against Lebanon this year.

REAGAN PLAN FOR MIDDLE EAST CRITICIZED

Timoshkin Commentary

LD172138 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. Today I want to talk about the following matter: In reporting the Egyptian president's tour of some European countries, the American and other Western information media highlighted the fact that the Egyptian leader has lauded the so-called Reagan plan for settlement of the Middle East question and has earnestly urged the Arabs in general, and the PLO in particular, to accept the Reagan plan because official Cairo sees some positive aspects in it. However, the overwhelming majority of Arab countries and the PLO believe -- and rightly so -- that the Reagan plan for which all this clamor has been raised, was no more than a new propaganda exercise acting as a cover for the Camp David deal. For this reason, the 20 Arab leaders and the PLO at the Fes conference actually rejected the so-called Reagan plan. The plan was not also accepted by the Arabs' friends and allies, including the USSR.

This is only natural, for the Reagan plot or the Reagan plan as it is called, ignores the essence of any just solution of the Middle East crisis: the need for Israeli forces to withdraw from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, the establishment of the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, and primarily the exercise of their right to self-determination and to setting up their independent state over the territory of their homeland.

Both the Camp David Accord and the Reagan plan refuse to recognize the fact that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people, at a time when the United Nations and over 100 countries have recognized this status for the PLO.

In view of all the aforementioned reasons, it can be clearly seen that the Reagan plan does not aim at all at solving the crisis. The plan aims only at strengthening Israel's hand in consolidating the fruits of its aggression against the Arabs and at consolidating and expanding the U.S. presence in the region, as well as supporting the neocolonial positions of U.S. imperialism.

These goals are so clear that the Arabs would never agree to them at all. It is recognized even beyond the ocean today that the Reagan plan has failed, as can be seen for example by what THE WASHINGTON POST has stated. But THE WASHINGTON POST has blamed the U.S. State Department and Secretary of State Shultz for this failure. The paper said Shultz has failed to secure implementation of the Reagan plan. But this view cannot be accepted. For nobody can make black appear white or make the American-Israeli dictates on the Arabs look like efforts for peace and settlement in the Middle East.

There is only one road leading to peace in the Middle East, and it is acceptable to all the parties concerned. This road was highlighted again during the recent talks in Moscow between Soviet leaders and members of the Arab seven-member committee led by King Husayn of Jordan. This road is defined by the well-known Soviet proposals -- the 6-point proposals, and the Fes conference resolutions.

Following the talks, the Soviet proposal for holding an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all the parties concerned without exception, including the PLO, received a great welcome in the Arab world. It must be stated in this regard that King Husayn of Jordan expressed his appreciation of Soviet foreign policy, toward the Middle East. In a message to Yuriy Andropov, CPSU secretary general, King Husayn spoke on behalf of all members of the committee saying: We thank you for your support and for your firm stand and for your support for the objectives of the Arab peoples, as defined at the Fes conference.

In conclusion, may I reiterate that the Fes Arab summit conference resolutions have completely cancelled the so-called Reagan plan, which despite everything, is still being supported by some.

Seyful-Mulyukov Assessment

LD172214 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1620 GMT 17 Dec 82

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Excerpts] The White House is reactivating its Middle East diplomacy. President Reagan has met with Lebanese Foreign Minister Salim in Washington, and then in London Secretary of State Shultz had talks with him. Shultz met President Mubarak of Egypt the day before in Rome. At the same time the U.S. Administration has again sent its emissaries to the Middle East: Habib and Draper, who have already begun shuttle trips between Tel Aviv, Beirut and other capitals in the region. President Reagan today granted an interview to THE WASHINGTON POST in which he stressed the need for all foreign troops to wibhdraw from Lebanon. This is the background to the new U.S. activity in Middle East affairs.

In the White House there is increasing concern that Reagan's plan for the Middle East could turn out to be a stillborn initiative. As the prominent U.S. specialist for this region, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco noted the other day, this initiative is gradually coming to nought. It has evoked serious political debates and ferment in Israel and in the Arab world.

In order to rescue its policy in the Middle East, the Washington administration has made new active diplomatic efforts. As the main link, the issue of the settlement of the Lebanon crisis has been chosen. The longer the Israeli occupiers remain in their positions in Lebanon, the more difficult it will be for Washington to persuade the Arabs to accept the Reagan plan. It should be said that between Washington and Tel Aviv quite a serious exchange of words blew up over this issue. Begin and Sharon are behaving in a provocative manner even in respect of U.S. representatives. Sharon has said that U.S. efforts directed toward a settlement of the Lebanon crisis and the Palestinian problem are doomed to failure. The Israeli ruling clique is striving to reap political dividends from the armed incursion into Lebanon, to impose a separate deal on it and to preserve in one form or another its control over southern Lebanon.

Facts show that Washington is indeed striving to establish its own hegemony in this region by using the results of Israeli aggression in Lebanon.

PRAVDA Views Plan

LD190848 Moscow TASS in English 0836 GMT 19 Dec 82

["PRAVDA: The USA Is an Advocate of Killers" — TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 19 TASS -- Today's PRAVDA writes that "peace" on Washington's and Israel's terms means the assertion of U.S. dominance in the Middle East, the perpetuation of Tel Aviv's occupation of Arab lands, and a truncated "autonomy" which is designed to bury the idea of establishing a Palestinian state. The "peace" has resulted in Israel's new aggressive sallies and in continuing occupation of the territory of yet another Arab state -- Lebanon.

Such is the geneology of both of the "Reagan plan" on the Middle East and of a new round of "mediation" which was recently resumed by Washington's emissary Philip Habib after conferences in the White House, the newspaper points out.

"Washington tries to 'reconcile' Israel and Lebanon and, of course, in full accordance with the Camp David recipes and with the occupiers' brazen claims. Tel Aviv, which under various pretexts refuses to withdraw its troops, demands the establishemnt of a so-called 'security zone' in Lebanon's south and presses for a separate peace with Lebanon and for a possibility to dictate its will to that country".

The newspaper emphasizes that the role of Washington "intermediaries" is similar to the one performed by an adroit advocate of a swaggering killer. "The advocate helps, adivses, admonishes, and bargains for the most advantageous conditions, upholding the interests of his client better than the client himself."

The Washington "intermediaries", of course, do not forget about themselves either, trying to secure an increase in the number of U.S. Marines that are part of the "multinational disengagement force" in Beirut. They, PRAVDA sums up, will be needed by the Pentagon which has officially announced the setting up of a new military command the sphere of action of which covers a vast area -- from Egypt in the west to Pakistan in the east.

Kuvaldin on U.S. Protection

LD171908 MOscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 17 Dec 82

["Encouraging the Aggression" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- TASS commentator Georgiy Kuvaldin writes:

The U.N. General Assembly had adopted a number of documents which denounce the expansionist aggressive course of Israel's ruling Zionist circles. Among these documents is a resolution which stigmatizes those guilty of the monstrous massacre at the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatilla in West Beirut, resolutions which denounce establishment of Israeli jurisdication over Syrian Golan Heights and acts of Israel's plunder of Palestinian cultural legacy, a number of other documents.

As it repeatedly happened in the past, the United States took under protection the Israeli aggressors and was against most of the resolutions which were adopted, the resolutions which reflected the will of the world community. The stand of the American Administration showed that the United States not only connives at Tel Aviv but also, justifying its course, actually encourages the Israeli military to commit new bandit sallies against sovereign Arab states.

Having provided for yet another time "a diplomatic umbrella" to its strategic ally, Washington at the same time intensifies practical activity aimed at building up American military-political presence in the Middle East. White House emissaries Habib and Draper came again to that region, thus resuming the so-called "shuttle diplomatcy". The officially announced aim of that diplomacy is "settlement" of the situation around Lebanon.

But, as was repeatedly noted by the progressive Arab press, actually efforts of the American emissaries are aimed at establishing American-Israeli rule in the region, at imposing upon Arabs Reagan's plan on the Middle East, the plan which ignores the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and a number of other substantial elements of Middle East settlement.

Meanwhile it is well known that the foundation for settlement in the region was elaborated through the efforts of Arab leaders at the Fes summit conference. That foundation actually coincides with the Soviet proposals on a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East which found its confirmation in the course of the recent visit of the "committee of seven" (?delegation) to Moscow.

Thus a real possibility is being created for extensive coordinated [word indistinct] in order to promote attainment of genuine peace in the region on the basis of Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands and ensuring of the rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to have an independent Palestinian state under the guidance of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the tested leader of the Palestinians.

EXPLOSIONS DAMAGE RSA NUCLEAR POWER STATION

LD191404 Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Lusaka December 19 TASS -- Two heavy explosions rocked the Kuberga Atomic Power Station in the racist-ruled Republic of South Africa. As a result, a heavy damage was inflicted upon the structure. This was announced in Pretoria today by an official spokesman of the South African Police.

According to original plans of the racist authorities, the atomic power station, in the construction of which Western powers -- members of NATO actively participated, is to come into operation in the middle of next year. Pretoria links with this enterprise its far-reaching plans in the field of production of nuclear weapons.

PELSHE RECEIVES CONGOLESE LABOR PARTY DELEGATION

LD182306 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] A Delegation of the Congolese Party of Labour was in the Soviet Union from 10th to 17th December, headed by Central Committee member, chairman of the Central Auditing Commission, Ngoma Foutou [title as heard]. On 16th December the delegation was received by Politburo member of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Party Control Committee under the Central Committee, Arvid Pelshe. In the course of the talks, a desire was confirmed for further strengthening the relationship of friendship and co-operation between the two parties and states. Ngoma Foutou stressed the immense significance of the historic experiences of the Soviet Communist Party in the solution of the nationalities issue. He conveyed to the Soviet people congratulations on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR and his wishes of new successes in communist construction.

DETAILS OF BUENOS AIRES DEMONSTRATIONS REPORTED

TV Report

LD172210 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Dec 82

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] About 150,000 people took part in a demonstration organized by the Multiparty Group, an association of five political parties including the Communist Party, which has taken place in Buenos Aires. It took place under the slogans of lifting the restrictions on democratic freedoms and restoring civilian government not later than October 1983. In breaking up the demonstration the police used teargas grenades. One demonstrator was killed by unknown persons.

President Bignone Comments

LD182158 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1045 GMT 18 Dec 82

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Gennadiy Vedenyapin and Georgiy Alekseyev]

[Text] UPI reports that Argentine President Bignone spoke at a cabinet session on the clashes between the police and the population during a demonstration by many thousands in Buenos Aires on 16 December, held under slogans calling for the restoration of a civilian government in the country, in which a multi-party union of the five main political parties, including the Communist Party, participated. It is clear from the UPI cable that the Argentine president admitted the responsibility which the authorities bear for this incident, during which excesses of cruelty were displayed toward the demonstrators by the police. As a result one person was killed and about 80 persons were injured. Bignone also accused individual participants in the demonstration of provoking disorder. However, in the opinion of the demonstration organizers, as published in a joint communique, the demonstration was an expression of the Argentine population's dissatisfaction with the military regime and its policies.

U.S. READYING ARMED AGGRESSION AGAINST NICARAGUA

LD181816 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 18 Dec 82

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpt] The United States is accelerating the preparation of armed aggression against revolutionary Nicaragua. Yet another piece of evidence of Washington's aggressive imperialist policy is President Reagan's recent visit to Costa Rica and Honduras.

The visit to Costa Rica and Honduras, which are Nicaragua's neighbors, and the meetings with the presidents of these countries and also with the heads of the puppet regimes in El Salvador and Guatemala who came specially for a meeting with Reagan, were in the opinion of political observers of the region an attempt to give moral support to the alliance of forces which come out against revolutionary Nicaragua.

In Nicaragua the overwhelming majority of the population is aware of the danger of U.S. imperialism's aggressive aspirations and of the constant threat of an open military incursion. The patriotic movement of defenders of the revolutionary gains is growing in strength, defense is being consolidated and there is growing unity among all strata of the population aimed at rebuffing any attempt to infringe the sovereignty of the revolutionary republic.

TASS REPORTS FEDORCHUK BIOGRAPHY, PROMOTION

LD171734 Moscow TASS in English 1557 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS — Follows a biographical outline of Minister of Internal Affairs of the USSR Vitaliy Fedorchuk:

Vitaliy Fedorchuk, a Ukrainian, was born in 1918. He joined the CPSU in 1940 and has a higher education. He worked in the district press and joined the state security bodies after graduating from a military school. A veteran of the Great Patriotic War, he was chairman of the Committee of State Security of the Ukrainian SSR from 1970 to 1982 and chairman of the Committee of State Security of the USSR from 1982. He is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, a deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and a member of the Legislative Proposals Commission of the Soviet of the Union.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has given Vitaliy Fedorchuk the military rank of General of the Army.

ANDROPOV TO DELIVER REPORT AT 21 DEC MOSCOW MEETING

LD201026 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 20 TASS -- Guests from all continents are expected to arrive in Moscow for the festivities on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. A celebration meeting which is to open in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses at 11 a.m. on December 21 will be attended by 135 foreign delegations.

A report will be delivered by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Vadim Zagladin, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke at the press centre of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs today. He told Soviet and foreign journalists that socialist countries will be represented at the festivities by party and state delegations. Representatives of communist and workers' parties of socialist and social-democratic parties and national-liberation movements will also participate in the festivities.

The leaders of delegations are to speak at Soviet public meetings which are to be held in Moscow and other cities.

About 400 foreign and Soviet journalists have been accredited at the press centre to cover the festivities on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

FOREIGN DELEGATIONS ARRIVE FOR 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Jaruzelski, Polish Group

LD201252 Moscow TASS in English 1242 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 20 TASS — A party and state delegation of the Polish People's Republic, led by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic, arrived here today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government to attend celebrations on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

At the airport the delegation was met by Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

Bulgaria's Zhivkov

LD201028 Moscow TASS in English 1014 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 20 TASS -- A party and state delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, led by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Community Party, chairman of the Council of State of Bulgaria, arrived here today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government to attend celebrations on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

At the airport the delegation was met by Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

Husak, CSSR Delegation

LD201138 Moscow TASS in English 1132 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 20 TASS -- A party-and-state delegation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, led by Gustav Husak, general seceratary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and president of the republic, arrived here today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government to attend celebrations on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

At the airport the delegation was met by Grigory Romanov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and other officials.

Romania's Ceausescu

LD201110 Moscow TASS in English 1036 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 20 TASS -- A party-and-state delegation of the Socialist Republic of Romania, led by Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government to attend the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

At the airport the delegation were met by Mikhail Gorbachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by other officials

MSZMP's Kadar

LD191654 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1617 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec (TASS) -- A party and state delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic, headed by Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, to take part in the celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the creation of the Soviet Union. Viktor Grishin, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and other officials met the delegation.

SFRY Delegation

LD201302 Moscow TASS in English 1248 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 20 TASS -- A party-and-government delegation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, led by Lazar Kolisevski, member of the collective Presidency of Yugoslavia, member of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government to attend the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. At the airport the delegation was met by Mikhail Solomentsev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee.

SRV, Cuban, Mongolian Groups

LD182228 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Party and state delegations from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam headed by Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; from the Republic of Cuba headed by Raul Castro Ruz, member of the Politburo, second secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers, and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba; and from the Mongolian People's Republic headed by Tsedenbal, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government for the celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

The delegations were met by members of the CPSU Central Committee Arkhipov, Makeyev, Novikov, Rakhmanin, Savinkin and Tereshkova [as heard]; candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Dmitriyev and Simonov; deputy head of a department of the CPSU Central Committee Smirnovskiy; and other officials.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1850 GMT on 18 December reports the arrival of the Cuban, Mongolian and Vietnamese delegations. The report ends by saying: "They were met by Comrades Aliyev, Pelshe, Solomentsev, Kapitonov, Ryzhkov and other officials.]

Hungary, DPRK, Laos, DRA

LD192242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 19 Dec 82

[Text] Party and state delegations from Hungary, led by Comrade Kadar; from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea [DPRK], led by Comrade Yi Chong-ok; from Laos, led by Comrade Phomvihan; from Afghanistan [DRA], led by Comrade Karmal; as well as other foreign delegations have arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government to attend the celebrations for the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. They were met by Comrades Grishin, Pelshe, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Rashidov, Solomentsev, Zimyanin and other officials.

Kampuchean Delegation

LD182302 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Dec 82

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Soviet Government, party and state, delegations have arrived in Moscow for the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

The delegation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is led by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of the Council of State of the republic.

Other Leaders Met

LD190054 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, foreign delegations have arrived in Moscow to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. Among them are delegations from the People's Republic of Angola, headed by Luvualu, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party and general secretary of National Union of Angolan Workers; the People's Republic of Kampuchea, headed by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and chairman of the Council of State; the Syrian Arab Republic, headed by Bajbuj, member of the pan-Arab leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and chairman of the National Council of Peace Supporters; the Communist Party of India, headed by Rao, general secretary of the National Council of the party; the Portuguese Communist Party, headed by Pato, member of the Political Commission and the Secretariat of the Central Committee; the Communist Party of Denmark, headed by Jensen, the chairman of the party; the Syrian Communist Party, headed by Bakdash, general secretary of the Central Committee; the Communist Party of Finland, headed by (Kajanoja), chairman of the party; the Communist Party of Ireland, headed by O'Riordan, the general secretary of the party; the Communist Party of Luxembourg, headed by Urbany, chairman of the party; the Communist Party of Norway, headed by Kleven, the chairman of the party; the Communist Workers' Party of Sweden, headed by Hagel, chairman of the Board of the party; the Communist Left Party of Sweden, headed by (Ingvarson), member of the Executive Committee of the Board of the party; the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin, headed by Schmidt, chairman of the party; the Communist Party of Malta, headed by Baldacchino, chairman of the party; the Jordanian Communist Party, headed by (Farat), first secretary of the Central Committee; the Communist Party of Israel, headed by Wilner, general secretary of the Central Committee; and the Communist Party of Argentina, headed by Fava, general secretary of the party.

The delegations were met by Comrades Aliyev and Pelshe, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Kapitonov and Ryzhkov, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee; Sizov, chairman of the Central Auditing Commission of the CPSU; and other officials.

VISITING OFFICIALS MEET WITH ANDROPOV, OTHERS

Andropov, MSZMP's Kadar

LD201024 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] A meeting took place today between Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee.

During the conversation the leaders of the two fraternal parties highly appraised the state of Soviet-Hungarian relations based on full unity of views of the CPSU and the MSZMP on all the most important present-day issues.

They reaffirmed their firm intention to continue to deepen the internationalist friendship and the fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People's Republic.

They expressed the resolve of the CPSU and the MSZMP to facilitate in every way the strengthening of cohesion of the socialist community and the implementation of the Leninist ideals of stable peace and social progress.

The meeting took place in a atmosphere of brotherhood, cordiality and full mutual understanding.

Ba'th Party Delegation

JN181428 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Dec (SANA) -- Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the Ba'th Party's National Command, met with Comrade (Alek), deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, at the committee's headquarters this afternoon. The discussions dealt with the activities of the Council of Peace Partisans in Syria and the USSR, coordination of joint action and the situation in the Middle East.

Comrade Bajbuj arrived in Moscow yesterday at the head of a party delegation comprising Comrades Dr Ahmad Dargham and Michel Rishah to attend the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the USSR. Comrade Sa'id Hammadi, member of the Ba'th Party's Regional Command and President of the Revolutionary Youth Federation, who is currently visiting Moscow joined the delegation.

IZVESTIYA OUTLINES CHANGES TO USSR CRIMINAL LAWS

OW190833 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Dec 82 Morning Edition p 4

["Official Section: Perfection of Legislation on the Struggle With Transgressions of the Law and Criminality" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] Proceeding from the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the provisions of the USSR Constitutution on further strengthening socialist legality and law and order, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has adopted a number of decrees. The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has introduced the corresponding additions into the legislation of the RSFSR. During the elaboration of these bills the numerous wishes of the working people and their intolerance of antisocial manifestations were taken into consideration.

The changes in the law are aimed at raising the effectiveness of criminal punishment measures, at ensuring a more differentiated approach to transgressors of the law in accordance with their personality and degree of public danger, as well as at improving the practice of preventing transgressions of the law and reeducating the condemned and at strengthening the role of state organs, the public and labor collectives in this matter. This will permit, without diminishing the responsibility of recidivists and other dangerous criminals, the expansion of the application of punishment measures not related to imprisonment in relation to individuals who have committed minor infractions of the law for the first time.

In accordance with the new legislation a deferment of the execution of the sentence can be applied to individuals who are being condemned for the first time to imprisonment for a period of up to 3 years if the court, taking into consideration the nature of and the degree of danger of the committed crime, the personality of the culprit and other circumstances of the affair, comes to the conclusion that it is possible to correct and reeducate him without isolation from society.

At the same time, it has been established that a deferment is not applicable to individuals condemned for more dangerous and graver crimes. In applying a deferment in the execution of a sentence, the court can oblige the condemned to rectify the harm caused in a specified period of time, to get a job, and can impose other duties on him envisaged by the law, the fulfillment of which can promote his correction and reeducation. If the condemned will not fulfill the duties imposed on him or commits a transgression of public order or labor discipline, he may be directed on the determination of the court to serve his imprisonment as stipulated by the sentence.

The effectiveness of control over the behavior of those on probation has been raised. If during the trial period established by the court the probationer commits a violation of public order or any other transgression, he can be directed by the court to serve the punishment stipulated by the sentence.

It has been established that under a conditional sentence, additional punishment can be set in the form of fines, denial of the right to occupy certain official positions or to engage in certain activities, dismissal from official positions and the imposition of the responsibility to make up for the harm caused.

The period of corrective labor has been increased to 2 years, which will permit the border use of this form of punishment in lieu of imprisonment. In the event an individual, condemned to corrective labor at his place of employment, avoids serving his punishment, the court may on a submission from an internal affairs organ or upon petition from a public organization or labor collective, direct such individual to serve his punishment elsewhere as determined by organs charged with the application of corrective labor. Thereby, the opportunities to more actively influence those condemned to corrective labor are broadened while the role of labor collectives and public organizations in their correction reduction increases. At the same time, the present system of substituting corrective labor for imprisonment for an equal period of time for individuals maliciously avoiding serving this punishment is preserved.

The size of fines as criminal punishment has been increased to R300 and that for mercenary crimes to R1,000. In extreme cases envisaged by USSR legislation, even bigger fines can be established for certain crimes.

Additional measures have also been determined, aimed at further improving the protection of socialist property, preventing minor misappropriations and strengthening the struggle against them, and at educating citizens in a spirit of care for the people's property.

Along with this, criminal responsibility for the misappropriation of state and public property as well as of the personal property of citizens through theft, burglary and robbery has been strengthened. Responsibility for speculation committed repeatedly or on a large or particularly large scale or by an individual previously tried for speculation has also been increased. The theft of means of motor transport will also be punished more severely.

Increased responsibility for mercenary crimes will also be ensured through broadening the possibility of applying such punishments as confiscation of property, denial of the right to occupy certain official positions or to engage in certain activities. Being introduced is the criminal responsibility of individuals who are by sentence of the court denied the right to occupy certain official positions or to engage in certain activities but who violate this ban, as well as of responsible officials who accept them for employment.

Conditional release from places of imprisonment will not be applied in relation to individuals convicted for the gravest crimes or convicted repeatedly, as well as those who were already released ahead of time but who committed a new premediated crime.

The legislative bills of the USSR and RSFSR envisaging the introduction of the noted changes and additions will become effective as of 1 January 1983; they are being published in the "Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR" ["Record of the USSR Supreme Soviet"] and the "Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta RSFSR" ["Record of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet"].

MOSCOW SEES NEED TO STRENGTHEN LABOR DISCIPLINE

LD182116 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 18 Dec 82

[Commentary entitled "Strengthening Labor Discipline" by (Yuriy Aleksandrovich Yudin), senior legal counsellor]

[Text] The issue of raising labor productivity and the quality of output produced is closely linked with improving the organization of production, with work efficiency and finally with the strict observance of labor discipline. The magnificent growth of our country's economy and the successful implementation of the party's plans is all the result of the high conscientiousness of the working people and of the strenuous creative labor of Soviet people.

Nevertheless, it is repeatedly necessary to raise the question of strengthening labor discipline, when we talk of the nonfulfillment of plans tasks and of decreased deliveries and unjustified downward amendments to plans. Most frequently they are the consequence of inability to organize and of irresponsibility with regard to the work allotted.

The practice of Procurator's supervision testifies that there are still a number of enterprises where it is possible to encounter instances if infringement of discipline, such as absenteeism, or appearing at work in a state of inebriation, arriving late and departing early from work. In some branches of industry output worth millions of rubles is not produced because of loss of working time. For example, in 1981 alone in the enterprises of the Yuzhkuzs-Bassugol association losses of working time due to absenteeism amounted to several tens of thousands of man-days. Another reason for absenteeism is drunkenness. Losses of working time due to low labor discipline are increasing constantly at enterprises under the jurisdiction of the Motor Transport Ministry of the Turkmen SSR, the Lithuanian SSR and at associations of the (?collective farm stockfarming industry) in Moldavia and other places. Manpower turnover also does great damage.

What does all this indicate? It indicates underestimation of industrial and labor discipline as one of the most important factors in the economic life of the country, and as an indispensable condition of successful communist construction. This also testifies that not all economic and trade union bodies are yet conducting a specific, purposeful fight to consolidate good organization and order in industry.

There are still a number of associations and enterprises where the leaders have become accustomed to the infringement of the regulations of the internal labor order. They do not give examples or an evaluation according to party principles of absenteeism. Furthermore, in specific cases those infringing labor discipline remain not only unpunished but are even encouraged. The administration of the (?Demyansk) Directorate of Mechanization No 3 served a severe reprimand to workers (Zhuravlev), (Uvalov) and (Rofeyev) for a collective drinking bout in the workplace, but about 5 days later they were awarded a prize for having a good attitude to work. In Bogorodsk forestry in Gorkiy Oblast driver (Yezhikov), despite frequent absenteeism, was recognized as winner in the socialist competition for his work results in the quarter and was awarded a diploma.

One of the reasons for infringement of labor discipline is the weak utilization of public forms of action on infringers, the lack of punishment and, as I have already said, the counciliatory attitude of enterprise heads to such people.

Comradely courts at the Saratov footwear production association in the course of 8 months examined 15 cases regarding persons who had been absent from work, while in this period about 100 workers from the association had been absent; however all these cases did not become the subject of serious talks in the collective, but were ignored by administration. The intervention of the bodies of the Procurator's Office were necessary before public organizations and the management of the enterprises took specific measures to eliminate infringements of labor discipline. Participation in public work is not only the constitutional duty of every able-bodied citizen, it is the source of our prosperous existence and the source of all our wealth.

PRAVDA Readers' Letters

LD171818 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 17 Dec 82

[From the PRAVDA review]

[Text] Reading the Mail is the title of a review of letters which is published today. In these letters the paper's readers call for a still more relentless struggle against all violations of party, state and labor discipline. Critical remarks were made about this at the November CPSU Central Committee plenum. Letters published in today's issue contain many interesting and justified agruments on this score. Here are a few of them:

Comrade Semenov from Moscow gives his views on the subject of making rational use of every minute of working time. He writes: These days just 1 minute represents the results of a day's work by roughly 200,000 workers. The detrimental practice of working on days off could be dispensed with if every hour was used to maximum productivity. This is the theme of letters received from Ukrainian coal industry enterprises.

Proposals on this score include the following advice: The working rhythm of collectives should not be upset by diverting large groups of people to various types of extraneous work, like meeting and welcoming guests. The practice of finishing work 2-3 hours early on the eve of holidays, which has developed spontaneously, should be abandoned. Gatherings, seminars, rallies and reviews should not be held in working time under any pretext.

PRAVDA stresses that the strengthening of labor discipline is a pressing and topical problem. In their letters workers, engineers and office staff draw attention to the use of team methods, intensification of educational work and strict application of the law in the struggle against shirkers, drunkards and loafers.

SOLOMENTSEV ON GAINS OF RSFSR, OTHER REPUBLICS

LD182335 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1547 GMT 18 Dec 82

["In a United Family" program, addressed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers -- live or recorded]

[Text] Good evening, dear comrades. A great and bright festival -- the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the USSR -- is approaching. This is a festival of friendship and fraternity of the peoples of our country, who are rallied by the Communist Party in a united family, inspired in the struggle for the attainment of the great aim of building a new society. The 60th anniversary of the foundation of the USSR signifies the true triumph of internationalism and is convincing testimony to the fact that the path of our development, indicated by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, is correct and reliable.

The Soviet people, greeting the glorious jubilee, is monolithically rallied around its combat vanguard: the Communist Party and its Central Committee. The unanimous approval by the working people of the Russian Federation, as of the whole country, of the decisions of the November CPSU Central Committee plenum, the arguments and conclusions contained in the speech at this plenum by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee is clear evidence of this unity.

Today the historic achievements of our people, of the first multinational socialist state in the world, are particularly evident to every Soviet person. These achievements are the result of close cooperation between the fraternal republics, of all nationalities inhabiting our country. With great satisfaction Soviet people and our friends abroad are noting that each union republic is developing as a part of a united whole, and has achieved an unprecedented prosperity in economy and culture, an upsurge in the wellbeing of the people.

In the jubilee decision of the party Central Committee, a high evaluation was given of the Russian Federation as a model of the USSR, noting the great role of the Russian people in the foundation and strengthening of the union state. This evaluation, comrades, pleases and in many ways puts an obligation on us: The workers, peasants and intelligentsia of the Russian Federation consider it their vital concern in the future to tirelessly strengthen the friendship of the nationalities of the Soviet land. Our friendship has passed the test of the troubles of the revolution and the Great Fatherland War, has grown stronger throughout the everyday working life of the 5-year periods: It clearly demonstrates the creative efforts of the Soviet people. Whatever (?major) construction we have undertaken -- the assimilation of the wealth of Siberia and Mangyshlak, the transformation of the Nonchernozem Zone, or the irrigation of the Hungry Steppe, the foundation of power stations on the Kama and Nurek, the Angara and Inguri -- everywhere representatives of all the union republics are working shoulder to shoulder.

In Soviet Russia there are more than 100 nationalities and ethnic groups living and working in fraternal unity. An object of common pride for us is the unparallelled economic, social and cultural progress of many peoples of former national districts [natsionalnya okrayna]. If for the USSR as a whole industrial production since 1922 has risen by almost 500 times, then in a number of autonomous republics, oblasts, districts, it has risen by thousands of times. In the years of Soviet power 36 nationalities of the Russian Federation have acquired their own written language. The works of scientists highly-artistic works of writers, composers and other figures in the arts from the small nationalities [narodov], where before the revolution there were almost no literate people, are today well-known both in our country and outside its borders.

On the basis of unwavering upsurge in the economy the Soviet people's standard of living is rising continually. Over the last 11 years alone the real income of the population of the republic has increased by more than 1 and 1/2 times. Housing conditions have been improved for almost half of the inhabitants of the Russian Federation. In sanatoria and other RSFSR leisure centers up to 36 million people improve their health annually. Approximately 14 million children spend their summer in Pioneer camps. Dear friends, this is the implementation of the rights of citizens of the USSR to labor and leisure, to housing and health care as registered in the Constitution.

The working people of Soviet Russia are approaching the festival of the 60th anniversary of foundation of the USSR with good results. For successes in all-union socialist competition and to mark the glorious jubilee of our multinational state, the republic has been awarded a Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee. Many autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts, districts towns and rayons, enterprises and organizations of the Russian Federation have also been awarded Red Banners.

I would like to congratulate from the bottom of my heart the winners in socialist competition, labor shock-workers and to wish them and all the working people of the republic new successes in the implementation of the decisions of the 26th party congress. All the fraternal union republics have been marked with awards of honor. The working people of the Russian Federation send cordial congratulations to them, and wish them further successes and labor achievements.

In response to the high award, the working people of Soviet Russia are taking on new pledges and concentrating their effort on ensuring a good start for the 3d year of the 5-year plan. The tasks put forward by the Communist Party toward increasing the effectiveness of production and the quality of work, increasing labor productivity, the speedy introduction of the achievements of scientific-technical progress and the maximum exercise of thrift in the use of material and financial resources -- the implementation of all these tasks is assuming paramount importance. Much is being done in this direction.

On average, in RSFSR enterprises annually there are 2,200 new types of machinery, equipment and instruments being created, and work carried out in the direction of mechanization and automation of labor-intensive processes. As a result of the increase in labor productivity during the last year, economies equivalent to the work of 1.2 million people were achieved. However life demands that there should be an even more persistent increase in the effectiveness of production. In the republic measures are being taken for the fuller use of the production potential which has been created in the years of Soviet power. The management of the organization of production and labor is being improved; intensive work is being carried out to increase the volume and improve the quality of the output of consumer goods; and heavy industry enterprises are being increasingly involved in the implementation of this task. It is important that in the autonomous republics, krays and oblasts there should be greater on-site initiative displayed in seeking out reserves for the output of consumer goods, so that the public demand for these can be met ever more fully.

In connection with the party's agrarian policies particular attention is given to the further upsurge in agriculture. The capital-labor ratio [fondovooruzhennost] for kolkhozes and sovkhozes is increasing, and there is a better provision of machinery and supplies of mineral fertilizer for the farms.

Working and living conditions in the countryside are being improved. All this is leading to positive results. The production of many kinds of agricultural products has increased despite the complicated weather conditions in the last few years. There has been a perceptible increase in the production and purchases this year of grain, sugar beets, livestock and poultry, milk and eggs. A cause for satisfaction is also the fact that farms procured much more coarse and rich fodder, and fully provided themselves with seeds. Winter agrotechnical work is being carried out on a mass scale, and the working people of the countryside are extending greater efforts toward unconditionally fulfilling the plan for the next year and for the 5-year period as a whole.

The Food Program is placing responsible tasks before all branches of the economy. Life demonstrates convincingly that it is not only increased output of agricultural products that must be ensured, but it is also necessary to ensure that these products are fully preserved and supplied to the customer in good condition. Administrative and economic bodies in the RSFSR take this into account in organizing their work.

Comrades! The November CPSU Central Committee plenum once again emphasized the Leninist dictum that it is through our economic policies that we exercise our chief influence on the course of world development. Maintaining the standard of international responsibility which history has placed upon our country, the motherland of socialism, is the duty of each working citizen. Awareness of this responsibility, this great responsibility, emerges particularly vividly through the preparations of our people leading to the jubilee of our union state.

Working people everywhere are meeting the festive day with intensive work and with the achievement of high production indices.

Our successes and plans for the future are indelibly linked to preserving world peace. The working people of the RSFSR along with the working people of the whole country express deep gratitude to the Communist Party and its Central Committee for the happiness of being able to work in conditions of peace, which are reliably ensured by the peace-loving foreign policy and the undestructible defense might of the Soviet state. In marking today the battle and labor achievements over 6 decades, Soviet people continually find strength in the great creative force of the socialist order.

In close, indissoluble unity the Soviet peoples, the fraternal peoples, under the leadership of the party of Lenin, firmly and confidently advance toward further victories along the road of building communism.

LEADERSHIP LAY WREATH AT LENIN MAUSOLEUM

LD200920 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 20 Dec 82

[Text] Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrades Aliyev, Gorbachev, Grishin, Gromyko, Kunayev, Pelshe, Romanov, Tikhonov, Ustinov, Chernenko, Shcherbitskiy, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Comrades Demichev, Dolgikh, Kiselev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Rashidov, Solomentsev, Shevardnadze, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Comrades Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Rusakov, Ryzhkov, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee, today visited the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers. With a minute's silence they paid their respects to the memory of the leader of the world communist movement and creator of the world's first socialist state.

Leaders of the Communist Party of the Soviet State laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall and with a minute's silence paid their respects to the memory of Soviet soldiers who fell in the struggle against fascism, for the freedom of their homeland, and happiness and peace on the planet.

PRAVDA REPORTS SESSION OF MVD PARTY AKTIV

PM161145 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 82 Second Edition p 3

[Text] (TASS) -- On 10 December a party aktiv meeting was held at the USSR MVD. It discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the party organization's tasks.

USSR Internal Affairs Minister N.A. Shchelokov, who delivered the report, analyzed the ministry's activity in the current year and focused the attention of those taking part in the meeting on the need to boost its influence on the improvement of the work of internal affairs organs to prevent violations of the law and strengthen public order.

The meeting exmained questions of improving the workstyle and heightening the personal responsiblity of Communists for their assignment and outlined specific measures to fulfill the demands of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum.

ROMANOV REPORT AT LENINGRAD OBKOM PLENUM

PM151731 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Dec 82 pp 1-3

[Unattributed report: "Following Lenin's Course — To New Achievements"]

[Text] A Leningrad CPSU Obkom plenum was held in the Smolnyy yesterday.

The participants observed a minute's silence to honor the bright memory of that true continuer of Lenin's great cause, outstanding figure in the Communist Party and Soviet state and in the international communist and workers' movement and ardent fighters for peace and communism, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

The results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the Leningrad party organization's tasks in fulfilling its decisions were discussed.

A report was delivered by G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad Obkom.

From Comrade G.V. Romanov's Report

Comrades!

The days of bidding farewell to our motherland's outstanding son Leonid Ilich Brezhnev demonstrated with new force to the whole world the monolithic unity of the party and people. Like all Soviet people, the communists and working people of Leningrad and the oblast are rallying still more closely around the Communist Party and its combat staff the Central Committee and declare their boundless loyalty and unswerving devotion to Lenin's cause, the cause of October.

The extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum held on 12 November reaffirmed the continuity of the party's domestic and foreign policy and unanimously elected Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Leningraders are unanimous that in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov we see in the highest party post an authoritative political and state leader who skillfully directs multifaceted work to implement the CPSU's Leninist course, the course of peace and creation.

Our party's creative aims were also the focus of attention at the CPSU Central Committee plenum held on 2 November, which examined the question of the draft state plan for economic and social development of the USSR and the draft state budget for 1983.

A major speech was delivered at the plenum by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He gave a detailed characterization of the country's economic development at the present stage, indicated shortcomings in economic and organizational activity and ways of eliminating them and set precise tasks for further increasing the efficiency of social production.

The plenum of the party's Central Committee fully and wholly approved the practical activity of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo in implementing the course elaborated by the 26th CPSU Congress in the sphere of domestic and foreign policy. The CPSU Central Committee plenum approved the draft plan and budget in the main and instructed all party organizations to be guided in their activity by the provisions and conclusions put forward in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech.

Firm determination to fulfill the party's plans was the hallmark of the routine USSR Supreme Soviet and RSFSR Supreme Soviet sessions held immediately after the CPSU Central Committee plenum which ratified the state plans for economic and social development and the budgets of the USSR and RSFSR for 1983 and also adopted a number of new laws.

In speaking of next year's plan it should be stressed that its main indicators accord fully with the directives of the 26th party congress. It is planned to substantially increase the absolute growth in national income. Measures aimed at the dynamic development of industry and agriculture, the concentration of capital investments and the growth of the volume of retail trade turnover are defined.

The plan is more fully balanced in terms of material, technical, financial and manpower resources. The main emphasis is on further accelerating scientific and technical progress, increasing labor productivity and improving the management machinery.

The line of steadily improving the working people's well-being and more fully satisfying Soviet people's growing aspirations is adhered to consistently. It is planned to increase the proportion of national income channeled into consumption and ensure preferential rates of development of B group enterprises and particularly the production of cultural, consumer and household goods.

Real per capita income and social consumption funds will increase. Appropriations for additional measures to increase wages will rise. Supplements are to be introduced for length of continuous service, as well as additional leave for stockmen in a number of regions of the country, including the RSFSR's Nonchernozem Zone, and partly paid leave and lump sum payments for working mothers.

More housing will be built than was originally intended in the 5-year plan for 1983. Thousands of new schools and children's preschool institutions, hospitals, general clinics and other social facilities will be commissioned.

Substantial appropriations are allocated to the development of the agroindustrial complex and the implementation of the Food Program. In a word, the entire content of the plan confirms that concern for the Soviet person, his working and living conditions and his spiritual development remains a most important programmatic principle for the party.

The Communists and working people of Leningrad and the oblast, unanimously approving the CPSU Central Committee plenum decisions, express their full support for the party's domestic and foreign policy, which is aimed at further strengthening the country's economic and defense might and consolidating its international prestige.

Today, as we prepare to discuss the Leningrad party organization's tasks arising from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November plenum and to examine the draft plan for the comprehensive economic and social development of Leningrad and the oblast in 1983, a few words should be said first of all about the work done in the 5-year plan period to date.

During that time further growth has been secured in Leningrad's economy. Its contribution to the resolution of many major operational economical tasks have increased. A new step forward has been taken in increasing efficiency. Suffice it to say that the total volume of industrial production achieved in the current year is more than R1 billion above the 1980 level and that this entire increase in Leningrad has been achieved through increased labor productivity. The country has received output -- including consumer goods -- worth tens of millions of rubles over and above annual targets.

The leading sector -- machine building and metalworking -- has developed twice as rapidly as Leningrad's industry in general.

More than 1,000 modern new types of machines, instruments and means of mechanization and automation have been created and assimilated. The proportion of articles with the state seal of quality accounts for about 36 percent of the total volume of output subject to certification.

Targets for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan for the production and sale to the state of all types of arable produce, meat and eggs have been overfulfilled by the oblast's agricultural workers. In the current year the harvest was gathered in a well-organized way and the productivity of the dairy herd and milk production increased. Procurements of coarse and succulent fodder increased. Vegetables and potatoes have been laid in for winter storage in sufficient quantities to fully meet the requirements of the inhabitants of Leningrad and the oblast.

A large volume of capital construction has been carried out since the start of the 5-year plan. New capacities have been commissioned at the Izhorsiiy Zavod, V.I. Lenin "Nevskiy Zavod," Leningradskiy Metallicheskiy Zavod, Elektrosila and Kirishinefteorgsintez associations, the A.A. Zhdanov shipbuilding plant, the Nogin factory, the Leningrad cardboard factory in Antropshino, the Svetogorsk pulp and paper combine and other enterprises. The large Sinyavinskoye poultry raising association, the Volna cattle fattening complex and new production facilities at mixed feed plants have been commissioned.

An extensive program of housing, cultural and consumer construction is being consistently implemented. Apartment blocks with a total area of more than 4 million square meters have been commissioned, along with new vocational and technical schools, general schools, preschool institutions and trade, cultural and consumer facilities. After the commissioning of three new stations on the Moskovsko-Petrogradskaya subway line on the eve of the 65th anniversary of Great October, its length now totals nearly 73 km. The Kantemirotskiy Bridge opened to traffic ahead of schedule. The construction of Morskoy station in Gavan is nearing completion.

An important part has been played in achieving these successes by the purposeful work of party, trade union and Komsomol organizations and soviet and economic organs and the widespread competition under the slogan "From High Quality Work by Everyone to High Efficiency Labor by the Collective." In the course of preparations for the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation more than 6,000 teams and more than 200,000 workers have already fulfilled targets for the first 2 year of the 5-year plan.

While giving due credit for what has been achieved, it must be said at the same time that by virtue of a number of factors -- both objective and subjective — certain targets for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan have not been completely fulfilled. You could put it like this: We are moving forward, but more slowly than we planned, and more slowly than we might be.

It is necessary to evaluate on this basis the draft plan for the comprehensive economic and social development of Leningrad and the oblast for next year. L.N. Zaykov, chairman of the Leningrad Gorispolkom, and V.I. Mashovets, first deputy chairman of the Leningrad Oblispolkom, will report on its main guidelines today.

I must note in this connection that the draft already takes account of a number of substantial observations put forward during the process of coordinating indicators in the USSR Gosplan, USSR Council of Ministers, and RSFSR Council of Ministers as well as during its examination at the recent party obkom Bureau session. This has made it possible to achieve a greater balance between volume indicators and manpower and material resources and between capital investments and the capacities of contracting organizations.

As a result the total volume of industrial production will increase by hundreds of millions of rubles.

As before, this increase must be ensured on the basis of a preferential rate of increase in labor productivity and a comparative reduction in capital investments and material and manpower expenditure. It is planned to ensure the production of cultural, consumer and household goods in strict accordance with 5-year plan targets.

In the sphere of capital construction the main attention must continue to be focused on modernizing and retooling enterprises, reducing the number of projects commissioned. With the total volume of state capital investments in construction projects for production purposes set at R1.9 billion, it is planned to commission fixed production capital to the tune of R2 billion.

Capital investments allocated for the development of the agroindustrial complex are nearly 7.7 percent above the current year's level.

The resolution of social questions will continue on an extensive scale. It is planned to build more than 50,000 apartments. General clinics for more than 7,000 consultations per shift and hospitals with 1,500 beds, 4 vocational and technical schools, schools with more than 15,000 places, and preschool institutions with 13,000 places will be commissioned. It is planned to further develop transport, roads and engineering facilities.

I do not think there is any need, comrades, to cite other features of the draft plan. Relatively intensive targets are set. It will not be easy to ensure their achievement -- and party, soviet and economic organs must be clearly aware of that. That is why there is urgency for us in the demand made by the party Central Committee plenum on the need to bring into play the underlying reserves for intensification of the national economy -- reserves which lie above all in speeding up scientific and technical progress, improving management and economic activity, ensuring the rational, more economical utilization of material and manpower resources and improving discipline and organization.

In these conditions it is very important to analyze the experience accumulated, carefully weigh up all the pluses and minuses, offer scope for initiative and guard against routine and the habit of acting through inertia.

The Leningrad party organization is carrying out multifaceted work to speed up scientific and technical progress. The scale of the development, assimilation and series production of highly productive equipment for various sectors of the country's national economy is expanding. On the other hand, there is a steady improvement in the technical level of Leningrad's own associations and enterprises, where hundreds of comprehensively mechanized and automated sectors and shops have now been created and introduced, as well as thousands of progressive manufacturing processes, specialized machine tools, including machine tools with digital program control, and industrial robots and manipulators.

This makes it possible to consistently step up the contribution to increasing labor productivity in machine building and instrument making. shipbuilding and radio electronics, metallurgy and chemicals and other important sectors and at the same time to fulfill the tasks set, as a rule, with a lower number of workers.

Take the problems of developing the fuel and energy complex, to which special attention was devoted at the CPSU Central Committee plenum. The role of Leningrad's science and industry in resolving them is well known. Every year sees an improvement in technical and economic characteristics and an increase in the unit capacities of turbines, generators, nuclear reactors, gas pumping units and many other types of equipment for hydroelectric, thermal and nuclear power stations and major gas pipelines and electricity transmission lines. Since the start of the current 5-year plan alone our enterprises have fully equipped more than 85 major electric power projects.

The country's most important construction sites scheduled for completion have been supplied with complete sets of equipment with a total capacity of more than 20 million kilowatts. Substantial scientific, technical and production groundwork has been done for the future. Research and development continue in the quest for improved machinery based on new principles of obtaining energy.

Work is also successfully under way on many other important all-union, sector and territorial programs. At the same time the existing potential is by no means fully exploited. In some enterprises and planning, design and technological organizations the creation of machinery takes place without the necessary planning, economic and scientific basis, which results in the nonfulfillment of targets. A large number of developments never get as far as series production.

In order to ensure decisive progress in the cause of increasing labor productivity and the effectiveness of scientific research and design operations and accelerating the creation and assimilation of new technology, it is necessary to rapidly overcome the inertia of some of our workers. Every party leader and every economic leader must realize that progress is impossible without the introduction of the latest achievements of science and technology.

We have already returned repeatedly to the theme of the wider utilization of the group methods of machining and the principles of group technology, which originated in Leningrad. With the emergence of such means of production as the "machining center" type of machine tool, machine tools with digital program control, industrial robots and modern computer hardware, new potential has appeared for making the transition to automated sectors, shops and enterprises in the conditions of small series and individual production. Such production facilities already exist in many of the country's industrial regions.

We too have taken the first steps in this direction. The Znamya Oktyabrya, Petrodvortsovyy Chasovoy Zavod and Znamya Truda associations and certain others are now embarking on the creation of individual fully automated production facilities. In the current 5-year plan a concrete program of action is to be implemented by enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems and certain other ministries.

But the leaders of many enterprises not infrequently reduce these very complex problems to a matter of the elementary mechanization of individual production processes. And in these instances technical progress plans are not properly linked with labor plans and the real release of manpower. During retooling the main bulk of the equipment is still used not to replace wornout equipment, but to increase the pool of machine tools. Many projects for modernizing existing production facilities are based on obsolete principles of labor organizations and techniques. The standard and quality of many new developments are low.

An example is the production of hydrolytic yeasts at the Kirishi biochemicals plant. In creating the plan for this project the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of hydrolysis permitted many erroneous decisions to be made. As a result the plant has been unable to give any output for 2 years now, while the institute remains aloof and takes no responsibility.

Such miscalculations by researchers, designers and development workers are often exacerbated by shortcomings in economic activity. As a result dozens of enterprises fail to cope from month to month with targets for increasing labor productivity. For the same reasons there is still only poor dissemination of the initiative of the collectives of the A.A. Zhdanov shipbuilding plant and the Tsentralnyy Kotloturbinnyy Institute Imeni I.I. Polzunova on ensuring that the entire increase in the volume of output and research is secured together with a reduction in the number of workers.

Here I would like to note the following. Party, trade union and Komsomol organizations have done and are doing much to introduce this initiative. But agitation alone is obviously not enough. It is also necessary to create — and this is the direct duty of economic leaders, engineering, technical and economic services, shop chiefs and production foremen -- suitable conditions for ensuring that what is new and advanced takes root more rapidly and yields weighty results more rapidly.

I believe, therefore, that it will be correct to carry out the certification of the technical level of production at all enterprises without exception under the control of party gorkoms and raykoms and sector trade union obkoms, and on this basis to draw up concrete plans for introducing the most efficient way of organizing production and labor, technology and techniques, which will help reduce excess jobs.

Another matter should also be mentioned. We have recently succeeded in stopping the growth in the numbers of employees at scientific institutions. But the USSR Council of Ministers resolution on reducing the number of people working at scientific research, design and planning organizations is not yet being fulfilled everywhere. Moreover the leaders of many such organizations demand additional staff whenever there is a change of topic.

Thus the State Scientific Research Institute of Quartz Glass reduced the volume of developments by nearly 6 percent, but personnel increased by more than 2 percent. In the Lenniigiprokhim these indicators were 7 and 4.4 percent respectively. Similar trends can be traced in a number of other sector institutes and organizations of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

At the same time only a few scientific and design organizations have begun to create systems of automation of design operations, which make it possible to increase research workers' labor productivity. The elaboration of progressive forms of awarding bonuses to scientific and engineering cadres and systems excluding wage levelling and making the bonus not a supplement to wages, as is now the practice, but a reward for highly productive, high quality labor remains a weak point.

It is the direct duty of all party organizations, leaders and specialists to expose and eliminate specific difficulties which hinder scientific and technical progress. They are called upon to look ahead, think more boldly and elaborate economic and organizational preconditions to stimulate the rapid, efficient utilization of scientific and technical achievements.

This also applies in full to the problems of a thrifty attitude to the people's property and the rational utilization of all types of resources. It was stressed at the CPSU Central Committee plenum that this is a matter of the feasibility of plans.

How do things stand with us? You know that territorial scientific and technical programs for the elaboration and introduction of progressive types of formation [formoobrazovaniye] and the expansion of low-waste and waste-free machining techniques have become an integral part of comprehensive plans. Much is being done, for instance, to expand the output of tools on the basis of powder metallurgy at the Instrument and Sestroretsk tool building plants.

Most party gorkoms and raykoms in conjunction with sector institutes monitor progress in implementing the regional "energiya" program. There is wide dissemination of the initiative of the "Elektrosila" association collective on ensuring that the entire increase in production volume in the current 5-year plan is secured without increasing the consumption of rolled metal products and the initiative of the Volkhov aluminum plant collective on the utilization of secondary resources. All this put together is yielding positive results.

Nonetheless work on the rational, economical expenditure of material resources often amounts to nothing more than appeals. Many enterprises systematically fail to fulfill savings targets or observe expenditure norms. There is a lack of systematic, in-depth analysis of the movement of raw materials and other materials. Their reliable preservation is not ensured everywhere.

Moreover as a rule when there is a change in the range of products, a downward amendment to plans or a postponement of targets to a later date, the superfluous capital is not withdrawn. This situation suits leaders and suppliers, since it creates free and easy conditions.

Thus in the Luch association (under the Leningrad Gorispolkom Local Industry Administration) surpluses of rolled steel products are systematically created as a result of increased orders. In the current year these surpluses totaled more than 20 tons. Similar shortcomings have been revealed at the Metalloposuda and Bummash associations. The Sevkabel association has above-norm stocks of copper to the tune of more than 4,000 tons, and of lead to the tune of 2,000 tons. The Krasnyy Vyborzhets and Istochnik associations, which sometimes work below full capacity, could manufacture many millions of rubles worth of output from these materials.

The Leningrad Main Territorial Administration of the USSR Gossnab does not completely fulfill its direct functions in these matters. With the participation of sector supply organizations, planning organs, the statistical administration of Leningrad Oblast and Leningrad and the Lenelektronmash association, the administration must embark on elaborating an accurate system of monitoring the basis for norms incorporated in orders for material resources, changes in production plans and the existence of materials at all enterprises regardless of departmental subordination.

And of course, the task is not only to know where the resources are, what they are and in what quantities, but also to ensure their flexible redistribution throughout Leningrad and the oblast in accordance with the prevailing situation. As a first step, on the basis of the results of a survey of available material resources on 1 January 1983, it is necessary to compile a single master document and prepare proposals for redirecting surplus and above-norm materials, which will make it possible to increase the output of certain types of products where underutilized capacities exist.

Attaching state significance to questions of savings makes it necessary to adopt a new approach to the quest for fundamentally new organizational, design and technological solutions to ensure a sharp reduction in the materials-intensiveness of the machine tools, machines, equipment, structures and components created and produced.

Despite considerable efforts in this direction, in a number of sectors of Leningrad's industry the materials-intensiveness of articles is falling only slowly, and it is even increasing in some sectors. In ferrous metallurgy, for instance, it has increased by 2.8 percent in recent years, in nonferrous metallurgy by 5.6 percent, in the construction materials industry by 19.9 percent. Increased materials-intensiveness continues to characterize certain types of machine tools and various types of equipment from the Zvezda and Kompleks associations, the Reduktor plant and the Vyborg Elektroinstrument plant. At many enterprises nearly half the metal goes for scrap because of imperfect manufacturing processes.

Alongside the leaders, engineers and technicians of enterprises, workers in sector scientific research and design organizations must also bear the responsibility for this situation. Without creating fundamentally new structures, reducing the proportionate materials consumption of articles for each unit of the basic parameter and introducing low-waste and waste-free technologies, it will be hard for us to resolve questions of bringing many types of machinery and equipment up to the level of the world's best achievements and saving material resources. It is necessary not only to realize this clearly, but also to draw the appropriate conclusions.

You know, comrades, what great significance the party attaches to increasing the output and improving the quality of consumer goods. Leningrad's brand name is worthily represented by many types of textiles and sewn goods, radio and electrical equipment, china, decorative glassware and other articles in great demand in the country. Output is increasing. The product mix is widening.

Yet for all the positive changes, it must be admitted that in this sector of work our industry still does not utilize the major potential it has at its disposal. There are serious omissions both in planning and in organizing consumer goods production. Certain articles are still in short supply, while individual enterprises disrupt the targets set and others take out of production goods which are needed, without the knowledge of the appropriate bodies.

In Kirovskiy, Vasileostrovskiy and Smolninskiy Rayons the proportion of articles in the top quality category is low. Serious violations of technology and thus the production of poor quality output is permitted in the Sevzapmebel, Soyuz, Krasnyy Treugolnik, Kozitskiy, Rot-Front and Sputnik associations and at other enterprises.

Order must be imposed in these matters. From next year a new accounting indicator is to be introduced: output of consumer goods per ruble of the wage fund. The task is to ensure that at each enterprise producing cultural, consumer and household goods, the output exceeds the wage fund of the collective in question.

The CPSU Obkom Bureau has instructed the Leningrad Gorispolkom and Oblispolkom to elaborate and implement a range of measures to extend the network of specialized shops and sectors producing goods for the population, and this includes shops and sectors at enterprises in heavy industry and other sectors of industry, involving bank credits and the use of the method of construction using the enterprise's own resources. Economic and party leaders are called upon to sharply step up work to bring all reserves into operation to increase the output and improve the quality of consumer goods.

A central place is occupied in our plans, as was noted at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum, by measures associated with the Food Program's implementation. Ways and methods of fulfilling this program in the Leningrad agroindustrial complex have been defined. So I will only dwell on the main tasks for next year.

Gross agricultural output will increase 4 percent. It is planned to obtain the entire increase on the basis of intensive factors — increased labor productivity and productivity of arable farming and livestock raising.

The volume of state purchases must be as follows: milk — 785,000 tons; meat — nearly 200,000 tons; eggs — 1,375 million eggs; potatoes — 225,000 tons; vegetables — at least 340,000 tons. We must ensure the 100-percent sale of standard quality potatoes and vegetables, while top grade milk and standard quality livestock must account for at least 95 percent. Corresponding targets have been set for every rayon and every autonomously financed production association of Sovkhozes. The main thing now is to ensure their fulfillment.

The first year of the Food Program's implementation has shown that we have created the necessary material and technical base and scientific potential for increasing the production of agricultural products. It is necessary to utilize them still more persistently and strive for efficiency and harmony in the work of all enterprises and organizations both in agriculture and in the sectors servicing it.

Special attention should be devoted to questions of farms' economies. Here, as the results of the first 2 years of the 5-year plan show, there are still great contrasts. Alongside the associations and Sovkhozes which annually achieve a reduction in material and labor expenditure and prime cost of output and an increase in profitability, there are also, unfortunately, laggard collectives, such as the Vyborgskoye, Boksitogorskoye, Tikhvinskoye, Kirishi, and Podporozhskoye associations. The oblispolkom, which we have repeatedly informed of the need to study in greater depth the causes of the chronic loss made by these and other farms, must help more effectively and flexibly to overcome the laggardness permitted to occur.

Substantial work should also be done to ensure the more proportionate development of the entire Leningrad agroindustrial complex. It has not yet proved possible to eliminate many departmental barriers in mutual relations betweek Sovkhozes and associations and enterprises of the Lenoblselkhoztekhnika and the Lenselkhozkhimiya and procurement and trade organizations.

There are serious disruptions in technical and agrochemical services and the provision of spare parts and packaging, and schedules for the delivery and reception of produce and contract conditions are frequently not observed. Because of the lack of coordination between sovkhozes and Glavlenplodoovoshchprom enterprises, the stores do not always have an adequate range of vegetables and greens, and the quality often suffers.

The material and technical base for the storage and processing of produce should be further strengthened. Next year in Leningrad, as well as extending the capacities of these enterprises, it is also necessary to step up work to build such enterprises, it is also necessary to step up work to build such enterprises actually at the sites of potato and vegetable production. Moreover it is necessary to eliminate the laggardness observed in the development of enterprises in processing sectors by means of a partial redistribution of the financial, material and technical resources allocated.

Now for our current concerns. In essence the struggle for the harvest in the third year of the 5-year plan has already been launched. And it is already time to be thinking about better land utilization, next year's harvest and fodder. By 1 March it is necessary to complete repairs of sowing and soil cultivation machinery, apply at least 8 million tons of organic fertilizers to the fields by the start of the spring sowing and ensure that every farm has a high quality seed stock. Concern must also be displayed for training cadres who are in short supply, above all machine operators, in order to organize the operation of the machine and tractor pool in one and one-half of two shifts.

As for livestock raising, here work to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee resolution "On Launching an All-Union Socialist Competition for the Successful Wintering of Livestock and for Increasing Production and Procurements of Livestock Products in the 1982-1983 Winter Period" must be a crucial stage.

A good initiative was put forward by the stockmen of Volodarskiy Sovkhoz in Luzhskiy Rayon, who pledged to obtain 350 kg more milk per cow during the period of keeping livestock in winter premises than they obtained in the previous winter period, and to increase milk sales to the state during that period by 20 percent. Many other collectives have mapped out high targets. And rural party organizations and soviet and economic organs must ensure such an approach on all sovkhozes and at every livestock unit.

One of the main components in all work to increase the efficiency of social production is still the improved utilization of capital investments. An important feature of next year's plan is that for the first time capital investments are fully linked to the plan for contract operations, which in turn takes account of the expected fulfillment of the current year's targets.

This gives us every reason to say that a realistic startup program [puskovaya programma] has been mapped out.

The course of concentrating material and manpower resources on the most important projects, modernizing and retooling existing production facilities and reducing the number of new construction projects will be continued. In the current year the number of construction projects in the city and the oblast has fallen by 12 percent, while resources allocated to each of them have increased by an average of 7 percent.

The structure of fixed capital is improving. The proportion of fixed capital which is active has increased in the last 2 years and now stands at nearly 60 percent. This line must be adhered to strictly in future.

Tougher demands must be made on the activity of all organs which are directly responsible for the state of affairs in capital construction and which have sufficient powers to rapidly resolve all the questions which arise.

It is above all a question of serious shortcomings in the work of a number of design organizations. Planning and estimate work needs improving. At many construction sites preparations for the commencement of construction and the organization of construction are a bottleneck. It is also time to establish quarterly control of the planning and assimilation of capital investments as regards the reproductive structure of such investments, including expenditure not included in the estimate for the construction project, and to increase discipline both among construction workers and among the leaders of client enterprises.

Because of organizational disorders and the lack of effective contact between construction workers, clients and designers, a strained situation is often created even at construction sites of priority state importance. For instance, capacities for the production of secondary aluminum in the "Vtortsvetmet" association have still not been commissioned, although the time allowed has long since expired. The construction of another important project -- a mill to produce 500 tons of flour a day -- is also proceeding unsatisfactorily.

The fact that our leading main administrations, first and foremost the Territorial Main Administration for Construction in Western Regions of the RSFSR and the Leningrad Gorispolkom Main Administration for Housing, Civil and Industrial Construction, have in recent years reduced the volume of construction and installation work cannot be tolerated. The constantly expanding material and technical base is still insufficiently mobilized, although considerable resources have been channeled into strengthening it over the last 2 years.

Party and soviet organs must adopt every urgent measure to organize uninterrupted work by the construction conveyor and the unconditional, timely implementation of the planned construction program. Here particular attention must be directed to housing, cultural and consumer projects, and there must be a high degree of responsibility in relation to these projects.

The construction of installations to protect Leningrad against flooding began several years ago in accordance with a CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution. The project, as is known, is extremely important and very complex from an engineering viewpoint.

The preparatory work has now been completed in general outline. Construction workers have embarked on erecting the main structures and are successfully assimilating the capital investment allocated.

I have to say that 2 days ago I briefed Comrade Yu.V. Andropov on progress in constructing the defenses. Yuriy Vladimirovich supported the party obkom's proposal on the need to speed up the erection of this project.

An appropriate decision was adopted by the controlling organs, and it is a matter of honor for Leningraders to ensure a high rate of construction work.

I will observe in passing that the latest, 250th flood once again caught the leaders of certain enterprises and organizations unprepared. If they had displayed greater efficiency and concentration, the material damage done would have been much less. So let us bear in mind two facts. The front of work on the protective installations will grow wider every year. At the same time party and soviet organs and commissions for combating natural disasters must be in constant readiness to rebuff such disasters.

We have recently returned repeatedly to the work of transport. There are many reasons for this. Our transport organizations -- the October railroad and the Glavlenavtotrans -- unfortunately do their "bit" in the nonfulfillment of plans for shipments of national economic freight which was spoken of at the plenum of the party's Central Committee.

This is due first and foremost to the general fall in the standard of operations and the lessening of the sense of responsibility among economic cadres, specialists and engineering and technical personnel. Justification can hardly be found today, for instance, for the systematic reduction of speed and failure to observe schedules for the movement of trains and the above-plan idle time for rolling stock on the October railroad and also in the sidings of enterprises and organizations.

The potential offered by the experience of labor collaboration among collectives of seamen, railmen, truck drivers and river transport workers in the Leningrad transport network -- experience approved by the CPSU Central Committee -- has by no means been fully exhausted. New potential for improving the utilization of rolling stock is also opened up by the initiative of Moscow's leading enterprises on repairing freightcars by their own efforts. This too must be developed in every way.

One more substantial question. Next year the increase in freight turnover on the October railroad and in the Glavlenavtotrans is planned at a lower level than the rate of increase in industrial production. This too indicates that transport organizations should tighten themselves up substantially and fully supply the national economy's requirements for shipments.

The 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, including the November plenum (this year), defined as one of the most important tasks that of further improving planning and management of the economy and improving the economic machinery.

As is well known, in recent years there has been a radical move toward the establishment of production and science-and-production associations which in practice have become the main structural link of our economy. The formation of associations has ensured the development and preparation of new products with high technical and economic indicators and with a substantial acceleration of the whole "from research to production" cycle.

Within the association framework it has become possible to introduce progressive techniques, advanced methods of production and labor organization and control equipment on a wide scale and to reduce the administrative and management apparatus. It is important that at many associations all these measures and extended reproduction should be ensured on the basis of self financing by means of an association's own resources obtained from production and economic activity.

At the same time, associations' considerable scientific and production potential, opportunities for improving their structure, expanding their self-help activity and the rights and responsibilities of their leaders are far from being fully utilized.

The process of creating new and enlarging existing associations, of transferring scientific and design organizations to them and of introducing a two-tier system of management is occurring at only a modest pace.

Questions of the relationship between scientific and production subdivisions which belong to associations and of workers' pay and incentives have not been fully elaborated. Nor do party organizations always effectively intensify their influence on labor collectives' activity.

Clearly there is no need to cite specific examples and places here. CPSU gorkoms and raykoms, local soviet ispolkoms and even enterprise leaders know them well.

Also well known are the shortcomings in work on improving the economic mechanism. In Leningrad and the oblast, for example, according to the latest estimates, there are now dozens of enterprises at work which are producing 46 percent of total industrial production. On the whole they are coping successfully with the set targets. Thus, the current year's increase in the volume of production in terms of normative net output was 6 percent and the increase in labor productivity was 5.9 percent.

However, many leaders regard the whole meaning of this work merely in terms of the transition to normative net output without concern to create the conditions for consolidating relations of autonomous financing or for bringing production structures into the system of normative management. This is how you can explain the fact that certain enterprises working under the new conditions still cling to old indictors. Even with a general overfulfillment of the targets in terms of normative net output and sales to the national economy this year some enterprises failed to supply output worth millions of rubles in terms of direct long-term contracts.

Many economic leaders and economists have still failed to make competent and fuller use of the advantages of work under the new conditions. The party obkom has more than once advised textile workers to set up direct links with Uzbekistan's cotton suppliers. That would make it possible to obtain more high quality cotton even in the current year since the cotton growers have overfulfilled the plan. However, the leaders of the Lenkhlopprom association are still not showing the requisite activeness.

Or take the question of devising a system of imposing direct responsibility on and of providing incentives to collectives with regard to the end result. With the exception, perhaps, of fines for low quality, industrial enterprises now effectively bear no responsibility for the sale of goods to the population. Their activity is evaluated mainly in terms of fulfillment of the plan of deliveries to wholesale trade bases. Many industrial leaders really do not care whether output is sold or whether it accumulates at depots.

It would seem possible, as an experiment, to transfer a few stores to certain associations producing goods in the main for Leningraders alone and to make the assessments of their labor, the building up of stocks and material incentives directly dependent on the volume of sales of articles to customers. Under such a system, enterprises would hardly produce poor quality or unwanted output since this would affect the interests of the collective and of its leaders.

In agriculture we have, in principle, resolved the question of the transition to an integrated management system on the basis of the establishment of autonomously financing Sovkhoz production associations. However, the oblast planning commission and the oblast agricultural administration are still slow with the completion of this work and are waiting for extra instructions regarding, for example, the Boksitogrosk, Volkhov, Vyborg and Luga associations which have still not joined the ranks of autonomous financing.

As was stressed at a recent conference held at the CPSU Central Committee on questions of implementing the country's food program, an important role is attached to the formation of rayon and oblast agroindustrial associations. In the near future we must also strengthen these administrative organs with experienced specialists capable of ensuring efficient leadership.

The organization of labor is still being improved only slowly in various spheres of our multifaceted national economy. In industry this is the case with the broader scale introduction of team forms of work. The transfer of livestock units to a two-shift regime and the link organization of labor in dairy farming and the comprehensive transfer to integral process team contracts and to work on the principle of assembly and construction teams and batches [potok] in construction remain a great reserve.

Of course, the solution of many questions of the improvement of the economic machinery, of planning and administration -- in industry, agriculture, capital construction and in other sectors -- must be sought within ministries, departments and other central economic organs.

However, much depends on the initiative and persistence of economic leaders and party committees at local level, on their ability and desire not to rest on their laurels but to bring into operation everything that can improve efficiency and work quality. It is to this aspect of the matter that the obkom's sectorial sections, the Leningrad Gorkom, CSPSU gorkoms and raykoms, primary party organizations and all soviet and economic organs in Leningrad and the oblast must direct the most serious attention.

Comrades!

The decisions of the party Central Committee November (1982) plenum, the propositions set out by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov on the national economic problems and the shortcomings in the sphere of economic management revealed with a party-minded principledness and frankness are of great mobilizing significance for increasing businesslike efficiency, good organization and discipline in all areas of work.

An analysis of the activity of our enterprises in various sectors shows that under equal conditions targets and adopted pledges are implemented more successfully where people work with an eye to the future and by relying on the achievements of science and practice and where party organizations resolutely prevent all violations of plan, executive and labor discipline.

We are coming to another conclusion which is that the existing shortcomings and omissions are engendered, as a rule, because the party's demands to steadfastly improve production efficiency are not always backed up by purposeful practical work either at the planning level, at the level of the fulfillment of plans or at the monitoring level.

Month by month quite a few enterprises and organizations in the city and oblast allow the targets for various indicators to be disrupted. Each quarter, in accordance with the adopted procedure, the bureaus of CPSU gorkoms and raykoms examine the results of activity and criticize laggards. Leaders promise to rectify the state of affairs but very soon forget their promises. Party committees, too, often forget this. This, of course, is wrong. Such a workstyle must be changed.

We still have quite a few instances of distorted report figures, deception, negligence and embezzlement of socialist property. These instances are worrying not only for their own sake. They are worrying because, as a rule, they are discovered and exposed by the efforts of control organs and not by collectives themselves.

It is no coincidence that the many responses to the CPSU Central Committee plenum materials contain a demand to intensify day-to-day monitoring and the uncompromising struggle against mismanagement and idleness -- no matter from whom they stem -- and to place greater responsibility for each violation not just on the immediate culprit but also on those who wittingly or not create the creations for this and who permit or tolerate deviations from the norms of our life and morality.

This, comrades, is a correct reaction to the decisions of the party Central Committee plenum, a reaction which is in tune with the ideas of all Leningraders. This sentiment -- of implacability toward all shortcomings and of concern for society's interests -- must be carried over in every way into specific actions and must be upheld in the everyday deeds of each labor collective.

There is a particularly topical ring now to the CPSU Central Committee's demand that it is necessary to strive so that the decisive areas should be manned by people who are politically mature, competent, who possess initiative, organizational abilities and a sense of what is new, without which it is impossible to direct modern production successfully.

In addition to other measures, we shall be acting correctly if, using past years' experience, we use the leading VUZes and the sectorial skill improvement courses of the scientific and technical propaganda center as the basis for organizing the training of leading personnel and specialists of enterprises, scientific research and planning institutes and design bureaus in the latest long-term methods of organizing production and manufacturing processes, bearing in mind the specific features of the sectors.

Care must also be taken to organize the training and retraining of other categories of leading workers in various spheres of the economy. This will help our engineering and technical cadres to approach questions of the intensification of production in a more businesslike manner.

Party organizations are now conducting widespread explanatory work to propagandize the CPSU Central Committee November plenum's decisions. Political theme days, studies within the political and economic education system and mass media materials should promote an in-depth understanding by every worker of the importance of the tasks set by the party.

We shall always remember Lenin's proposition that the state's strength lies in the consciousness of the masses. And party, trade union and Komsomol organizations should nurture this consciousness every day and in a specific way so that everyone should feel a sense of responsibility for the area entrusted to him and that words should match deeds.

Soon there will be CPSU gorkom and raykom plenums, party and workers meetings and local soviet sessions. They are to hold frank discussions not just of what has been done but also of existing shortcomings and of ways to eliminate them and of reserves for increasing the intensity of targets and for ensuring greater results with reduced expenditure of material and manpower resources.

In brief, the Leningrad party organization's entire experience of political and organizational work and of increasing the militancy of party ranks must be subordinated to scaling the peaks of economic and cultural building outlined by the party.

Comrades, as you know, recently abroad there have been a good many suppositions as to the Soviet state's future line in international affairs. And already the first principled statements of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov at the party Central Committee's extraordinary plenum and during the Soviet leadership's meetings and talks with the leaders of socialist countries and the heads of other delegations -- statements on the Soviet Union's adherence to the policy of detente and disarmament, the elimination of the threat of nuclear war and mutually beneficial cooperation with all those who desire it, in conjunction with a determined rebuff to the forces of imperialism and aggression -- have convincingly shown that Soviet policy is a policy of peace and the defense of the peoples' rights in their struggle for independence and social progress.

The party Central Committee November (1982) plenum confirmed the firmness and immutability of the basic principles and directions of the foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state formulated by the decisions of the 24th, 25th and 26th Congresses of the CPSU. The primary concern will continue to be the utmost consolidation of the socialist community states' unity and might. In this unity lies our strength, the guarantee of ultimate success even when undergoing the most serious ordeals.

The Soviet Union is sincerely interested in the normalization of relations with China and treats with a great deal of attention each positive response from the Chinese side to our well-known proposals.

We will continue to develop friendly relations with the liberated countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America and with states belonging to the Nonaligned Movement.

The goal of Soviet foreign policy is to erect insuperable barriers to war by practicing good-neighborliness and developing cooperation. The CPSU is opposed to the battle of ideas turning into confrontation between states and peoples, and to weapons and the readiness to resort to them becoming the measure of social systems' potentials.

At the same time the CPSU Central Committee plenum again said firmly that the Soviet Union will never embark on unilateral disarmament or make any sort of unilateral concessions and will continue to build relations with capitalist states solely on the basis of reciprocity, equality and identical security.

Our party is profoundly confident that the relaxation of international tension achieved during the seventies is not, as some imperialist figures maintain, a chance episode in history. The future belongs to the detente policy. And the Communist Party and the Soviet state will spare no efforts for the sake of this!

G.V. Romanov said in conclusion:

Each day brings us closer to the noteworthy date of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation. Labor achievements in honor of this jubilee and the successful fulfillment of the current year's plan and pledges will become the reliable foundation in the solution of the new and even more crucial tasks of consolidating our motherland's economic and defense might and the further growth of national prosperity.

Allow me to express the confidence that the Leningrad party organization and the city and oblast working people, by undertaking to execute unswervingly the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the propositions and conclusions contained in the speech made at it by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, will struggle with even greater persistence and purposefulness for the implementation of the plans of communist creation laid down by the 26th congress of our Leninist party.

LEADERS, OTHERS SIGN VIOLINIST KOGAN OBITUARY

OW200246 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 20 December in its First Edition on page 3 carries an obituary on the death of Leonid Borisovich Kogan, the famous Soviet violinist. The obituary was signed by the following: "Yu.V. Andropov, V.V Grishin, N.A. Tikhonov, K.U. Chernenko, P.N. Demichev, M.S. Solomentsev, M.V. Zimyanin, Y.N. Makeyev, R.F. Dementyeva, S.G. Lapin, B.I. Stukalin, V.F. Shauro, V.F. Promyslov, V.P. Yelyutin, V.I. Kochemasov, T.N. Khrennikov, Yu.Ya. Barabash, I.S. Bezrodnyy, E.G. Gilels, D.B. Kabalevskiy, V.A. Klimov, B.I. Kulikov, V.F. Kukharskiy, Yu.S. Melentyev, Ye.A. Mravinskiy, M.V. Pashkov, S.T. Rikhter, G.N. Rozhdestvenskiy, Ye.F. Svetlanov, Z.P. Tumanova, Ye.M. Chekharin, D.M. Tsyganov, D.B. Shafran, R.K. Shchedrin."

RED BANNER AWARDS GIVEN FOR ALL-UNION COMPETITION

Armenian SSR

LD171522 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Today in Yerevan a festive session of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and of the Supreme Soviet of the republic, was held, dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. Comrade Demirchyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report.

In the reports and speeches facts were presented on the further economic and social development of the republic and new targets were indicated in the struggle for the successful fulfillment of the decision of the 26th CPSU Congress.

At the festive session Comrade Kabkov, head of a CPSU Central Committee department presented the republic with a Red Banner from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee to keep forever. It was awarded to the republic for successes in all-union socialist competition and to mark the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

Uzbek Establishments

GF161848 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1300 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] A number of rayons, industrial establishments and unions have been awarded Red Banners by the [words indistinct] Central Committee, the RSFSR [as heard] Council of Ministers, the [words indistinct] and the [words indistinct] Central Committee for their success in the all-union socialist competition on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union.

Today, the homeland's awards were presented to the participants of this competition. Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev, the chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented the Red Banner to the representatives of the (Talinin) Rayon workers. Grekov, second secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, presented the Red Banner award to the production union of the Tashkent tractor factory known as the RSFSR 50th Anniversary.

Aytmuratov, secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee presented the Red Banner to the union of [word indistinct] industry in Tashkent. Timofey Osetrov, the first deputy chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers, presented the Red Banner to the (Almali) chemical factory collective.

Mirzamakhmud Musakhanov, the first secretary of the Tashkent Oblast Party Committee, presented the Red Banner to the Collective No 165 in [name indistinct] and Umarov, the first secretary of the Tashkent Gorkom, presented the Red Banner to the representatives of the (Latboya) factory known as the Uzbek SSR 50th Anniversary.

Speakers at the magnificent meetings held for the presentation of the awards expressed their gratitude to the party and the government for the high assessment of their toil. They also promised to exert strenuous efforts to fulfill the decisions taken by party Central Committee plenums in May and November 1982.

TU OFFICIAL NOTES ROLE, GROWTH OF TRADE UNIONS

LD142118 Moscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 14 Dec 82

[Text] Moscow December 14 TASS -- The formation of the USSR the 60th anniversary of which is marked this month has played a major role in the development of the trade union movement in the Soviet Union and promoted the broadening of the activities of those public organisations with a mass membership, Vasiliy Prokhorov, deputy chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR, told a TASS correspondent. He noted that 32 branch trade unions now have a membership of 131 million people.

Speaking about a harmonious development of socialist production in all constituent republics, Vasiliy Prokhorov stressed: "This permitted the Soviet Union to solve a most important social problem, that of employment of the population within a short period of time. The Soviet Union stamped out unemployment in the late 1920's. The working class is rapidly growing numerically." For comparison Vasiliy Prokhorov cited the following figures: "In 1922 there were 4.6 million workers in the Soviet Union, while in 1980 some 78.8 million people were employed in the national economy."

People from all constituent republics actively assisted by trade unions take part in building new cities and economic installations. For instance, before the Second World War the Turkestan-Siberian railroad and the Magnitogorsk iron and steel works were built and the development of the Kuznetsk coal basin begun.

This tradition is shown today, too, at the construction of the giant Baykal-Amur railroad across Siberia, the laying of major gas and oil pipelines. Soviet trade unions guide the work of the trade union society of inventors, voluntary groups for scientific and technical studies which unite about 22 million workers and employees.

Trade unions carry out a number of functions of the state. For instance, Vasiliy Prokhorov recalled, they administer state social security funds which made up more than R40 billion this year.

The international activities of Soviet trade unions serve the lofty goals of peace, socialism and progress. Soviet trade unions maintain contacts with trade union centers in 145 countries the world over.

TASHKENT WORKERS' INCOME TO INCREASE IN 1983

GF081646 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 6 Dec 82

[Text] The minister of finance of Uzbekistan, Vali Muratkhodzhayev, has said that the financial income of the people of Uzbekistan will increase in 1983.

The economic plan and the state budget for the next year, which have been approved by the recent Uzbek Supreme Soviet plenum, stipulate an increase of over 3 percent in the people's income. In 1983, the wages of workers and the income of [word indistinct] will also increase. State financial aid has been increased to families with many children.

BRIEFS

BOOK ON KAZAKH SSR -- A new book on social and economic development in Kazakh SSR has been printed in Moscow. The author of the book is Dinmukhamed Kunayev, the first secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee of the Kazakh SSR. [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 6 Dec 82 GF]

NEW CPSU ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT, LEADER NAMED

OW180048 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 82 First Edition p 3

[Text] Ashkhabad, 16 Dec (TASS) -- During the years of Soviet rule a path equal to centuries has been traversed by Turkmenistan which has become a republic with a highly developed economy and culture.

This was mentioned at the joint solemn meeting held in Ashkhabad of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee and the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

The speaker -- M.G. Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee -- and others who spoke noted that the all-round cooperation of the Soviet people helped to overcome the economic and cultural backwardness of the former outlying district.

At the solemn meeting B.I. Gostev, first deputy chief of the Economics Department of the the CPSU Central Committee [Pervyy Zamestitel Zaveduyushchego Ekonomicheskim Otdelom tsk KPSS, B.I. Gostev], presented to republic leaders and representatives of labor collectives, for perpetual safekeeping, the Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee, awarded to the Turkmen SSR for achievements in the all-union soicalist competition and in marking the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL AT GOSSNAB MEETING

OW180540 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Dec 82 Morning Edition p 2

["A Meeting Took Place" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] On 16 December a meeting of Gossnab Moscow party organizations was held which examined the results of the November (1982) CPSU Central Committee plenum and the tasks of Gossnab party organizations.

N.V. Martynov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of Gossnab, delivered a report at the meeting.

The reporter and other speakers paid particular attention to the style and methods of work of the organs of the statewide system of material and technical supply and to increasing their roles and responsibilities for the rational utilization and economizing of material resources and for the uninterrupted supply of raw materials, materials, equipment and spare parts to the national economy.

N.I. Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as well as N.F. Lobachev, deputy chief of the Economics Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and responsible officials of the CPSU Central Committee and the Moscow Gorkom took part in the work of the meeting.

BRIEFS

GORKIY NUCLEAR REACTOR -- Work has begun in the Soviet Union on the first nuclear reactor to be used to provide heat supplies to a city. The 500-megawatt reactor will supply hot water to the industrial and domestic heating systems of Gorkiy, a city with more than one million inhabitants. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 2 Dec 82 LD]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 12, 16 DEC REPORTED

LD200152 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 12 and 14 December. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

12 December

Farmers in the Virgin Land oblasts of Kazakhstan have completed snow-ridging on 1 million hectares. This is intended to double the snowcover on the fields and to secure additional harvest of up to 2 quintals per hectare. This winter in the republic it is planned to carry out snow retention work on 28 million hectares. In Donetsk, the collective of Konstantinovka chemical works, the largest supplier of mineral fertilizers in the Ukraine, is increasing output. The enterprise has produced its millionth ton of produce this year, 2 weeks earlier than last year, thanks to reconstruction of the enterprise. By the end of the year it is planned to produce another approximately 1 million tons, enough to feed an area of almost 1/3 of a million hectares. (1630 GMT)

16 December

Kazakh farmers plan to apply 35 million tons of organic fertilizers during the winter period. More than 3 million tons of seed have been prepared for next year. (0104 GMT)

RATIONAL THRIFTY USE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND URGED

PM161323 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 7 December in its Second Edition publishes on page 1 a 1,500-word editorial entitled "Taking Care of Our Land." Indicating the increasing pressures on the amount of land available for agricultural use -- pressures associated with the expansion of cities, the construction of new enterprises and the growing population -- the editorial emphasizes the need to make rational and thrifty use of agricultural land. It then proceeds to note ways to improve the yield of crops by applying fertilizers and draining and irrigating land and to increase the amount of land in agricultural use. The editorial also mentions shortcomings in these spheres and notes the failure of certain industries to return land to agricultural use when they have finished working it.

BRIEFS

UZBEK HARVEST FESTIVAL -- A republic harvest festival marking the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR was held in Tashkent today. The festival was attended by progressive agricultural workers from all the republic's oblasts and the Karakalpak Autonomous Republic. The ceremony was opened by Tashkent Gorkom First Secretary Comrade Salimov. The Uzbek agriculture minister delivered a speech during the ceremony, in which he highly assessed the work of republic's agricultural workers to achieve an abundant harvest of cotton and other agricultural products this season. According to his speech, the republic's agricultural workers produced 6 million tons of cotton, 3 million tons of grain and 5 million tons of fruit and vegetables this year. [Tashkent Domestic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 19 Dec 82 GF]